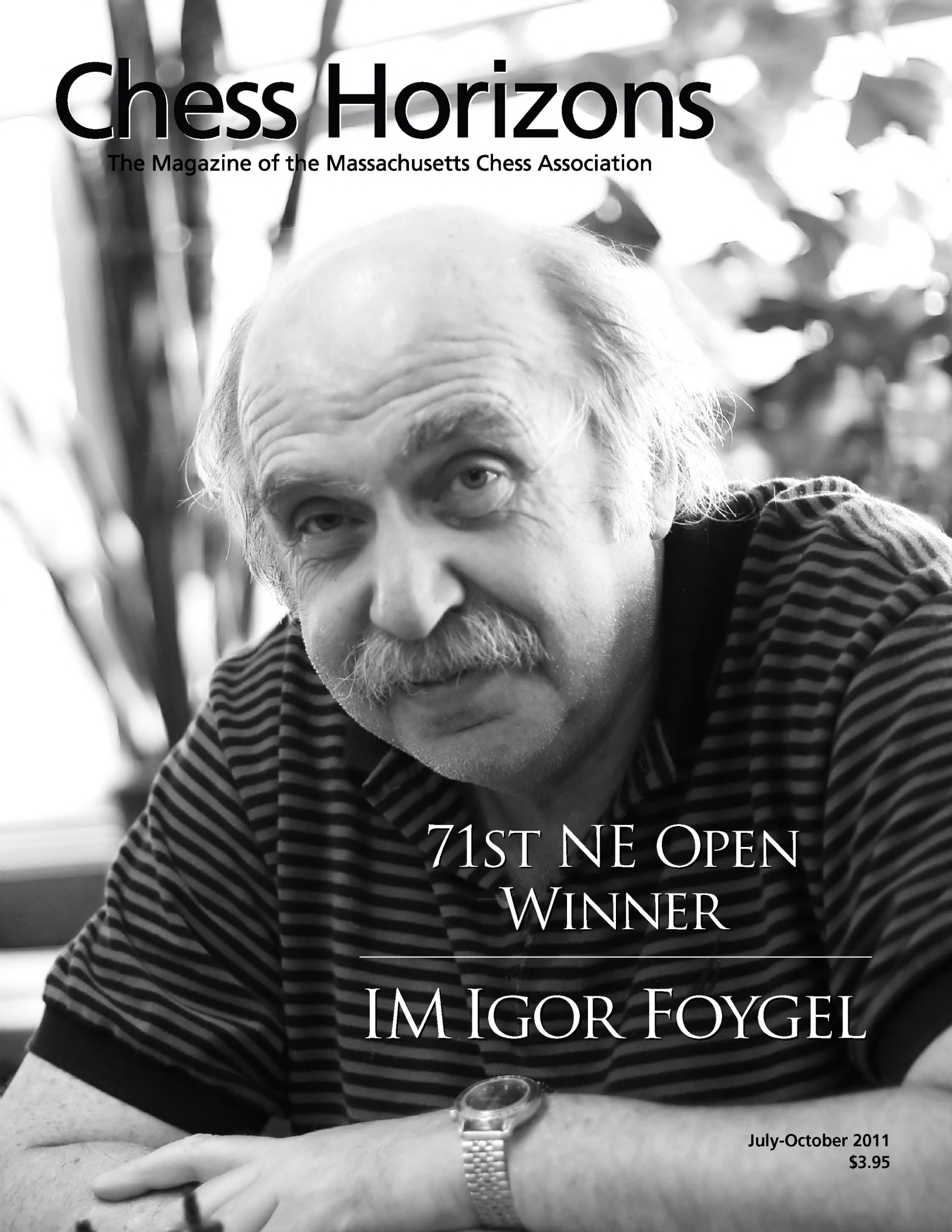
Chess Horizons

The Magazine of the Massachusetts Chess Association



71st NE Open Winner

IM Igor Foygel

July-October 2011
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Cover photo by Tony Cortizas Jr.

The next deadline for submissions is November 15, 2011.
All submissions are accepted and appreciated. Submissions are preferred via e-mail and in ChessBase, PGN or MS Word formats.

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MACA Update

by George Mirijanian

At its October 16 board meeting in Natick, the MACA board of directors passed a balanced budget of $14,653 for fiscal year 2011-2012.

2012 MACA Election Also at the October meeting of the MACA board, George Mirijanian was appointed the chair of MACA's Elections Commission. Candidates for officer and director positions on the MACA board should submit their nominations to George by sending email to election2012@masschess or writing to him at 176 Oak Hill Road, Fitchburg MA 01420.

2011 CJA Awards On August 13th Ramon Hernandez, the Awards Committee Chairman and Chief Judge of the Chess Journalists of America, announced the winners of the 2011 CJA Awards. *Chess Horizons* was the co-runner up for Best State Magazine/Newsletter, which sounds impressive until you learn that only three magazines were entered in this category! *Georgia Chess* was first with five votes, and *Chess Horizons* and *Northwest Chess* were tied for second with three votes each. What is truly something to celebrate, though, is that *Chess Horizons* was the winner for Best Chess Magazine/Newsletter Layout for its October-December 2010 issue. Congratulations to *Chess Horizons* layout editor Max Sewell! Congratulations also to FM David Griego, who was runner-up for the Best Analysis Award for his article "The Most Interesting Games of the 79th Massachusetts Open", which was published in the October-December 2010 issue of *Chess Horizons.*

Donate to MACA!

MACA is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization, so your donation is tax deductible. There are four ways you can donate:

Living Memorial Chess Fund. This fund is used for special projects such furnishing free chess sets to schools, libraries and public service agencies. For a $35 minimum donation a person you designate can be added to a list of people honored by donations to this fund.

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Chess Horizons. Donations designated for *Chess Horizons* increase the money that's available to help us publish a high quality magazine.

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Mail your check, payable to MACA, to MACA Treasurer Bob Messenger, 4 Hamlett Dr. Apt. 12, Nashua NH 03062.

IM Igor Foygel wins 71st New England Open

by George Mirijanian

International master Igor Foygel is the new New England Open champion. The 64-year-old IM from Brookline, Mass. notched five wins and a half-point bye to claim first place in the 21-player Open section of the 71st New England Open, held Sept. 3-5 at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Leominster, Mass. Capturing second place with a 5-1 score was 16-year-old national master Andrew Wang of Cambridge, Mass., whose only loss was to Foygel in the penultimate round as follows:

IM Igor Foygel and FM Christopher Chase, The Final Round. Photo: Richard "Doc" Kinne

IM Igor Foygel (2514)
NM Andrew Wang (2237)
[E62] King's Indian Defense
Fianchetto System
71st N.E. Open (5), 05.09.2011
(Notes by Foygel & G. Mirijanian)

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. g3 0-0 5. Bg2 d6 6. 0-0 Nc6 7. Nc3 Bf5

This move characterizes the so-called "Lesser Simagin Variation," also known as the Spassky Variation, as was seen in Donner-Spassky, Goteborg 1955. Black's other possibilities were 7...Bg4 (Simagin Variation), as was played in Foygel-Tylevich, 66th Mass. Open, Marlborough 1997; 7...e5 (Uhlmann or Szabo Variation), and 7...a6 (Panno Variation), as was seen in Foygel-Chase in the final round of this year's New England Open. After 7...Bf5, this position was identical to Foygel vs. Frank Wang, Andrew's father, which was played in round 2 of the tournament.

8. d5 Na5 9. Nd2 c5 10. e4 Bg4?!

This move is questionable. Better was 10...Bd7.

11. Qc2 a6

Better was either 11...Qd7 or 11...Qc8 with the idea of 12...Bh3.

12. b3 b5 13. Bb2

Bad was 13. cxb5 axb5 14. Nxb5?? because of 14...Be2.

13...bxc4 14. bxc4 Bh6

This move works better if the light-squared bishop had been on d7.

15. f4 Bd7

15...e6?? was impossible because of 16. h3.

16. Nd1

Also possible was 16. Rae1

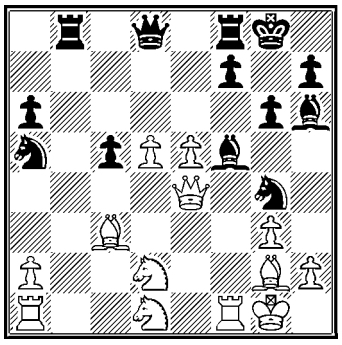
16...Rb8 17. Bc3

After this move, Black's "knight on the rim is dim" proves to be evident.

17...e6 18. e5! dxe5 19. fxe5 Ng4 20. Qe4 exd5

If 20...f5, then 21. exf6 Nxf6 22. Qe5 Bg7 23. dxe6 maintains White's superior position.

21. cxd5 Bf5



22. Rxf5! gxf5 23. Qxf5 Ne3 24. Nxe3 Bxe3+ 25. Kh1 f6 26. Ne4 1-0

Tying for third place with 3.5-2.5 results were FIDE master Christopher Chase of Somerville, national masters Lawyer Times of Hyde Park and Libardo Rueda of Winthrop. Also scoring 3.5-2.5 and tying for third and sharing the Under 2200 prizes were experts Grant Xu of Shrewsbury, David Harris of Providence, R.I., and Andrew Liu of Westborough, as well as Class A contestants Tian Rossi of West Newton and Soren Aletheia-Zomlefer of Phoenix, Ariz.

Thomas DeMartino of Dorchester won first place in the 25-player Under 2000 section with a score of 5.5-0.5 Michelle Chen of Concord was second with a 4.5-1.5 tally. Tying for third place with 4-2 results were Tim Bromley of Billerica, Siddharth Arun of Medfield, Howard Goldowsky of Canton and Mateos Sahakian of Medford.

Andy Li of Acton tallied 5-1 to finish first in the 24-player Under 1750 section. Tying for 2nd-3rd place with

NM Lawyer Times. Photo: Richard "Doc" Kinne

scores of 4.5-1.5 were Brian Smith of Connecticut and Thomas Sifter of Quincy.

The 18-player Under 1500 section saw a tie for 1st-2nd place between O'Young of New Hamsphire and Sean Blaisdell of Revere. Both scored 4.5-1.5. Tying for third with 4-2 tallies were Anton Barash of Brighton and Robert E. King of Plymouth. Also scoring 4-2 and tying for third and sharing the top Under 1350 prizes were Robert Walton Jr. and Pooja Welling, both of New Hamsphire.

Prize Winners

BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

1st: NM Lawyer Times of Hyde Park, 9.5-0.5

2nd: Farzad Abdi of Rockland, 8-2

1st U2000: Agustin Garcia of Framingham, 6-4

1st U2000: Soren Aletheia-Zomlefer of AZ, 6-4

K-3 UNDER 1200 SECTION

1st: Eddie Wang of Acton, 4-0

2nd: Raghav Srinivasan of Quincy, 2.5-1.5

3rd: Jason Liang of Worcester, 1.5-2.5

1st U600: Eddie Yi Ming Wei of Winchester, 3-1

2nd U600: Nikita Roldan-Levchenko of Allston, 1.3

K-6 Under 1400 SECTION

1st: Alan Sikarov of Newton, 4-0

2nd: Eric Feng of Sudbury, 2.5-1.5

3rd: Sandeep Shankar of Sudbury, 2.5-1.5

Medal winner: Alon Trogan of Needham, 2.5-1.5

Medal winner: Gershon Gilman of Newton, 2.5-1.5

K-6 UNDER 800 SECTION

1st: Tyler Saklad of Sudbury, 3-1

2nd: Jason Liang of Worcester, 3-1

3rd: Alexander Bao of Milton, 3-1

Medal winner: Luke Randolph of Jamaica Plain, 3-1

Medal winner: Nikita Roldan-Levchenko of Allston, 3-1

K-12 UNDER 1500 SECTION

1st: Jesse Sun of Sudbury, 3-1

2nd: Peter Teodroescu of Marlborough, 3-1

3rd: Shuvom Sadhuka of Acton, 2.5-1.5

K-12 UNDER 1000 SECTION

1st: Daniel Shih of Acton, 4-0

2nd: Ricky Wang of Acton, 2.5-1.5

3rd: James Cassidy of Westwood, 2.5-1.5

The 71st New England Open had announced a $3000 prize fund based on 100 fully paid entries. The number of entries in the three-day main event was 86. Three entries were free, three were counted as half entries (for players rated under 1000), so that 80 full entries or 81.5% of the prizes were paid and was rounded up to a total of $2,485. USCF senior TD Bob Messenger of Nashua, N.H. was the chief tournament director, assisted by national TD George Mirijanian of Fitchburg, Mass.

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Yi Yang Sweeps 1st Spiegel Cup Qualifier

by Bob Messenger

Playing in only his second rated tournament, 12-year-old Yi Yang of Shrewsbury swept the Age 14 & Under section of the 1st Spiegel Cup Qualifier, going 4-0 against a field which included Charlie Fauman, rated 1938, Evan Meyer, rated 1719, both of Newton, and Andy Li of Acton, rated 1650. Besides winning 1st place and qualifying for the Spiegel Cup finals, Yi earned a post-tournament rating of 2366! This may be over-stating his playing strength (until he loses a game, who can tell?), but this is clearly a player to watch in future tournaments. Andy, Charlie and Evan tied for second along with Anton Barash of Brighton.

The Age 11 & Under section also featured a 4-0 sweep, with Sandeep Vadlamudi of Lexington beating top-rated Tal Puhov of Shrewsbury in the last round to win the section. Tal tied with six other players for second place: Ari Xuan of Boxborough, Eric Feng of Sudbury, Sathwik Karnik of Plainville, Alan Sikarov of Newton, Andrew The of Lexington, and Isabella Shih of Andover.

There was a three way tie for 1st place in the Age and Under section between Eddie Wang of Acton, Lucy Cai of Lexington and Tyler Saklad of Sudbury. Eddie won an exciting blitz playoff to win the 1st place trophy and qualify for the finals.

Jacob Brockman of Newton won the Novice Under 800 section with a 4-0 score. Marc Bacharach of Wayland was second with 3-1, and five players tied for third with 2-2 scores: Aurash Vatan of Lexington, Rohan Sheth of Boston, Audrey Gaines of Shrewsbury, Siddharth Simon of Newton, and Graham Macklin of Wayland.

Giorgio Roscini of West Newton won the Novice Under 400 section with a score of 3½-½. Nicholas Bart and Adrian Seeger, both of Newton, and Philip Melki of Brookline tied for second with 3-1.

The MACA Scholastic Committee has decided on two rules changes for this scholastic season: winners of qualifiers will be allowed to play in later qualifiers, and there will be no High School sections in the qualifiers; instead, there will be a High School championship which will be open to all players in grades 9-12.

Brian Mottershead was the chief director of this 80 player tournament, assisted by George Mirijanian, Steve Frymer and Bob Messenger. The tournament was held on October 2nd at the Holiday Inn Select in Woburn.

"A computer beat me in chess, but it was no match when it came to kickboxing."
—Emo Philips

Gelashvili First at the 41st Continental Open

by Bob Messenger

Grandmaster Tamaz Gelashvili topped a 31-player Open section field to finish first at the 41st Continental Open, held August 11th to 14th at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge. Gelashvili ensured his 5½-½ victory with a last round win against GM Sergey Kudrin of Connecticut. Gelashvili's fellow New York GMs Giorgi Kacheishvili and Mikheil Kekelidze tied for second place, a full point back at 4½-1½. There was a six-way tie for third place between GM Alexander Ivanov of Newton, IMs Irina Krush and Justin Sarkar of New York, Jonathan Yedidia of Cambridge and Jim Rizzitano of Southborough, and 16-year-old Winston Huang of Newton.

15-year-old Darwin Ding of Lexington, with a pre-tournament rating of just 1910, finished clear first in the 35-player Under 2200 section with a 5-1 score. Kevin Zhou of Virginia won the 46-player Under 2000 section with 5½-½, as did Roman Cano of Pennylvania in the 32-player Under 1800 Section, Michael Kind of Manchester, New Hampshire in the 41-player Under 1600 section, and William Van Rensselaer of the Virgin Islands in the 26-player Under 1300 Section. Shawn Andrews of Vermont and Colin Smith of Maine tied for first with 5-1 scores in the 17-player Under 1000 section.

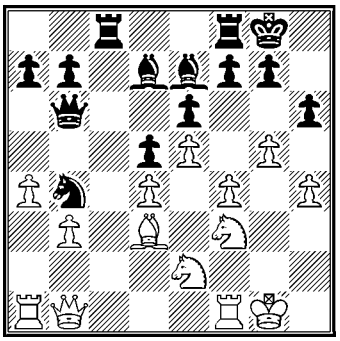
Bill Goichberg directed this 213 player tournament for the Continental Chess Association, assisted by his wife Brenda and by Bob Messenger.

Ivanov Annotates

by GM Alexander Ivanov

White: GM Alezander Ivanov (2540)
Black: GM Varuzhan Akobian (2611)
[C05] French Defense
Saint Louis MO (6), 20.04.2011

The following game was awarded the tournament's best game prize **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.c3 c5 6.f4 Nc6 7.Ndf3 Qb6 8.a3 Be7** [The more active 8...f6 allows 9.Bd3 and Black can't take the Pawn: 9...cxd4 10.cxd4 Nxd4?? 11.Nxd4 Qxd4 12.Bg6++-] **9.h4** I had reached this position before always choosing 9.b4. Another common move here is 9.Ne2. **9...cxd4** [Black can try the immediate 9...Na5!? 10.b4 (10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.b4 Bf2+ 12.Ke2 Nc4 (12...Bxg1 13.Rxg1 *(13.bxa5?? Qf2+ 14.Kd3 Nc5#)* 13...Nc4 14.Qd4 unclear)) 10...cxb4 11.axb4 Nc4=] **10.cxd4 Na5 11.g3N** [If 11.Ne2!? then Black can trade Queens by 11...Qb3; Of course, 11.Bd3 loses a Pawn after **11...Nb3** 12.Rb1 Nxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd4] 11...Nb3 [11...Nb8!?] **12.Rb1 Nxc1** [12...Nb8!?] **13.Qxc1 Qd8** I was expecting the more natural looking [13...0-0!? 14.Bd3 Nb8, for example 15.Ne2 Nc6 16.0-0 Bd7 17.b4 Rac8 18.Qe3 a6 with chances for both sides] **14.Bd3 Nb6 15.Ne2 Bd7 16.b3 Rc8 17.Qb2 0-0 18.0-0 Na8** This move looks strange at first, but it's not bad. Black prepares Nc7 and then Bb5. [18...a5!? 19.a4 *(19.Rfc1=)* 19...Bb4 20.Ne1 f5!? 21.exf6 gxf6 22.f5 exf5 23.Ng2 unclear] **19.Ra1** White is preparing Qb1 and makes sure Pa3 is protected **19...Qb6 20.a4** This stops Bb5, but weakens b4 square **20...Nc7 21.Qb1** Both players saw the following line: [21.a5 Qb4 22.Ne1 Bd8 23.Nc2 Qe7 with unclear play, for example, 24.Ne3!? f5!? *(24...Bb5 25.Bxb5 Nxb5 26.f5 Qd7 27.f6 gxf6 28.exf6 Nd6 29.Ng4 Ne4* unclear*)*] **21...h6** [21...g6 allows 22.h5] **22.g4** [White doesn't want the quiet equality after, for example, 22.a5 Qb4 23.Ra2 Bb5 24.Kg2=] **22...Na6** Now the play gets sharper **23.g5 Nb4** [23...h5 24.f5 *(24.g6 f5* unclear*)* 24...exf5 25.Nf4 with compensation for material]



24.gxh6 [24.Bh7+?! Kh8 and if 25.gxh6? g6-+; 24.Kh1 h5!?] **24...gxh6** [24...Nxd3 25.hxg7] **25.Kh1 Kh8 26.a5** I decided against the immediate [26.f5 because the Black Queen could use the sixth rank after 26...exf5 *(26...Nxd3 27.f6!? Bxf6 28.Qxd3 Bg7 29.Rg1 and if 29...Rg8 30.Ng5!)* 27.Bxf5 Bxf5 28.Qxf5 Qe6!?=] **26...Qd8?!** It was better to deflect the White Rook from g-file by [26...Qc7 27.Rc1 *(*I remember calculating the following line *27.f5 Nxd3 28.Qxd3 Qc2! 29.Qe3 Qxf5 30.Qxh6+ Qh7=/+)* 27...Qd8]

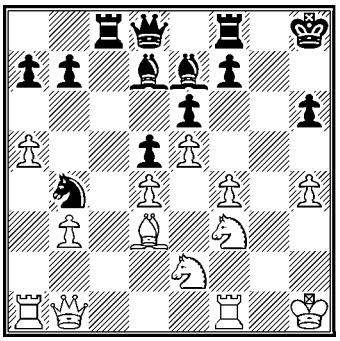


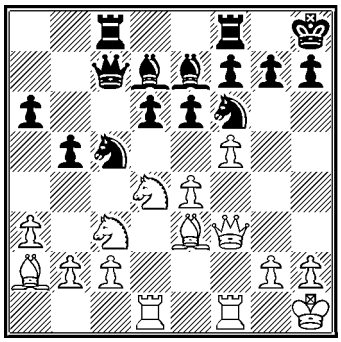
Photo: Tony Cortizas Jr.

27.f5 Rg8? It's too dangerous to alow f6. Black had two playable alternatives as the following computer analysis shows: [27...exf5 28.Bxf5 Bxh4 29.Rg1 unclear *(29.Bxd7?! Qxd7 30.Nxh4? Qh3+-+; 29.Nf4 Bg5)* 29...Rc6 30.Ra4 Bxf5 31.Qxf5 Nc2 32.Ra2 Nb4 *(32...Ne3 33.Qf4 Bf2 34.Rg2 Nxg2 35.Kxg2+/=)* 33.Ra4=; 27...Nxd3 28.Qxd3 exf5 29.Rg1 This was my idea 29...Qc7!? *(29...Be6 30.Nf4* (with compensation for the pawn) *30...Rg8 31.Rxg8+ Qxg8 32.Rg1 Qf8 33.Nh5!? Rc6 34.Nf6 Bxf6 35.exf6 Bc8 36.Qe3 Re6 37.Qf4 Re4 38.Qc7!? Rg4 39.b4!? Rxg1+ 40.Kxg1 Be6 41.Qxb7 Qg8+ 42.Kf1 Qg4 43.Ne5 Qf4+ 44.Kg2=)*] **28.f6+/-** Now White is clearly better **28...Bf8** [28...Rg4 29.fxe7 Qxe7 30.h5+-] **29.Bh7! Bb**5 Black offered a draw here, which I declined **30.Bxg8 Bd3 31.Qd1?!** [31.Qe1! I hesitated between this and the move made in the game, instinctively decided to prevent the fork on c2, not realizing that White would avoid the Be4 pin by 31...Kxg8 32.Qg3+ Kh8 33.Nf4! Bh7 34.h5!?+- preparing Ng6+] **31...Kxg8 32.Rg1+ Kh8 33.Nf4 Be4** The only move. **34.Rg3**

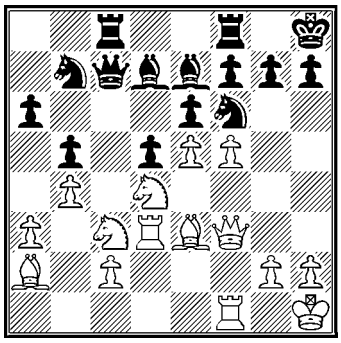
Rc3 35.Rc1 Nc2?! The best chance to mess things up was [35...Nd3! 36.Nxd3 Rxd3 37.Qe2 Rxd4 Still White is winning after 38.Qf2 Rd3 39.Qg2+-; If 35...Qc8 then 36.Rxc3 Qxc3 37.Kh2 Qc2+ *(37...Qb2+ 38.Rg2 Qc3 39.Ng5 Bxg2 40.Nxf7+ Kh7 41.Ng5+! Kh8 42.Ng6+ Kg8 43.Qg4+-)* 38.Qxc2 Nxc2+/-] **36.Kh2 Ba3 37.Ng5!** Now White is winning. **37...hxg5 38.Rxc3 Bxc1 39.Qxc1 gxf4 40.Qg1** Black resigned after noticing that 40...Qg8 or 40...Qf8 would be met with 41.Rc8!+- **1-0**

GM Alexander Ivanov (2540) FIDE
IM Daniel Naroditsky (2438) FIDE
[B86] Sicilian Defense
Saint Louis MO (3), 17.04.2011

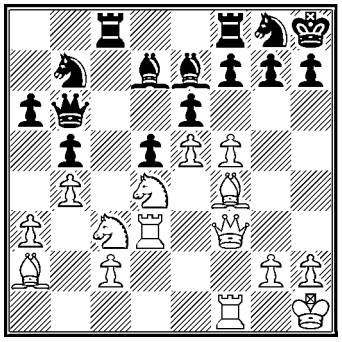
The following is the game between the oldest and the youngest player in the last US Championship. I recently turned 55, my opponent is just 15. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 Nbd7 8.Bg5 Nc5 9.f4** [Another common move here is 9.Qe2] **9...Be7 10.Qf3 Qc7 11.f5** [11.0-0-0 leads to more double edged positions] **11...Bd7** [In a later game Ivanov-Castaneda, Massachusetts Open 2011 Black tried 11...b5?! , but got into trouble after 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.e5! Nxb3?! 14.axb3 dxe5 15.Nxe6+/-] **12.0-0 0-0 13.Kh1 Kh8** There are other options here, but if Black is not planning a capture on b3, 13...Kh8 defends against Nf5 after the exchange on e6 since the Pawn will not be pinned. **14.a3 Qb6** [Again Black doesn't want to trade on b3 14...Nxb3!? 15.cxb3 Rac8 16.Rac1 Qb8=] **15.Rad1 Rac8?!** This allows White to keep his light squared Bishop. [15...Nxb3!? 16.cxb3 Rac8 17.b4 Rfe8 about equal according to a computer] **16.Be3 Qc7** [Now 16...Nxb3? runs into 17.Nxe6!+/-] **17.Ba2 b5**



18.b4 GM Maurice Ashley commenting the game live in a press room said he was surprised to see this move, but the computer agrees with my choice. From now on White stands better. **18...Nb7 19.Rd3** [19.Bd2 Nd8 20.g4 Qb6 *(20...d5?! 21.exd5 Nxd5 22.Nxd5 exd5 23.g5* with an attack*)* 21.Nde2 exf5 22.gxf5 Nc6 unclear] **19...d5?** A mistake after which White's advantage increases. Black had to play [19...Nd8 20.fxe6!? fxe6 21.Qe2+/=] **20.e5+/-**



Ng8 [According to a computer the alternatives are no good as well: 20...Ne4 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Qxe4 exf5 23.Nxf5 Bxf5 24.Qxf5 Qxc2 25.Bb1+/- g6 26.Bxc2!? gxf5 27.Bb3+/-; 20...Qxe5 21.Bf4 Qe4 22.Nxe4 dxe4 23.Qe2 exd3 24.Qxd3 exf5 25.Nxf5 Bxf5 26.Qxf5 Nd6 *(26...Rcd8 27.c4+-)* 27.Bxd6 Bxd6 28.Bxf7! Rcd8 29.Qe6 Rd7 30.Bh5+-] **21.Bf4 Qb6**



22.Nde2 A 'human' move. 'Houdini' shows a more direct win after [22.f6!? gxf6 23.Qh5 Rxc3 24.Rxc3 Qxd4 25.Rg3! *(25.Rh3? Qe4* unclear*)* 25...Qe4 26.exf6 Bxf6 27.Bh6+- To see this far was beyond my capabilities.] **22...Bc6** [22...d4 23.Nxd4 Rxc3 24.Rxc3 Qxd4 25.Rd3 Qb2 26.Rxd7+- ; Black's best chance to complicate matters was the obvious 22...f6 23.Qh3!? *(23.fxe6 Bxe6 24.Nxd5 Bxd5 25.Rxd5 fxe5 26.Rxe5 Bd6 27.Re6+/-; 23.Bxd5!? exd5 24.Nxd5 Qd8 25.exf6 Nxf6 26.Nxf6 Bxf6 27.Rfd1!+/- Bc6 28.Rxd8 Bxf3 29.Rxf8+ Rxf8 30.gxf3+/-)* 23...Nd8 24.Be3 Qb8 25.Nf4 Be8 26.Nxe6 Nxe6 27.Nxd5 Qxe5 28.fxe6+-] **23.f6 Nxf6** [23...gxf6 24.Qh5+-] **24.exf6 Bxf6 25.Qh5+- g6 26.Be5!** Now it's over. **26...Bxe5** [The line 26...gxh5 27.Bxf6+ Kg8 28.Rg3# is not hard to find even for a human player.] **27.Qxe5+ Kg8 28.Nd4 Bd7 29.Bxd5** [29.Nf5 f6 30.Nxd5 exd5 31.Qxd5+ Kh8 32.Qxd7 Rc7 33.Qd4! Qxd4 34.Nxd4+-] **29...Rxc3 30.Rxc3 exd5 31.Qxd5 Nd6 32.Nc6 Re8 33.Qxd6 Qf2 34.Qd1 1-0**

"The turning point in my career came with the realization that Black should play to win instead of just steering for equality."

—Bobby Fisher

Vigorito on Chess

by IM Dave Vigorito

"Get 'em while they're young."
– John Curdo

John told me this at a Billerica Saturday Swiss (who remembers Honeywell?) back in the late 1980's after beating one of countless young upstarts. The point was, of course, that kids often improve rapidly, and if you don't beat them while they are still young, you may not get another chance. Many of the kiddies leave chess before they get good or soon after, but many stick around and become good players. Of course when Curdo said this, it did not occur to me that he may be talking about me, too. My results against the New England legend have certainly improved over the years, but I still have an insurmountable negative score against him. He certainly got me while I was young…

There are many young players in the U.S. who are now Grandmasters that I played when they were less well known. I played Josh Friedel in a simul when he was around 8, and I beat him (for the first and last time) when he was about 2170. In these pages the reader may have noticed that I played Ray Robson twice – losing both games – when he was younger. I have never played Hikaru Nakamura in a tournament game, but my friends Joe Fang and Nathan Resika both have, and they both beat him. It's all in the timing. I played in tournaments in Budapest in 2000 and 2003 and played the likes of future-GM's Csaba Balogh and Tamas Banusz. I drew both of these games, which was not so special at the time, but I also played a couple of better known players who were coincidentally also named David…

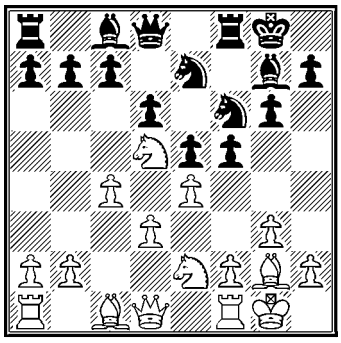
David Vigorito, (2300)
David Howell, (2250)
[A26] English Opening
Elekes Memorial (5), 21.05.2003

At the time of this game, David Howell was only about 12 or 13 years old. He was rated 2250, but he was improving rapidly and was 2323 on the next rating list. David had already earned a bit of a name for himself, as he played a blitz match against then World Champion Vladimir Kramnik. Although he lost (surprise) 3.5-.5, he drew a game and this was allegedly some sort of record for the youngest player to ever draw an active World Champion. I was a little higher rated and White, but I was still scared of him. My good friend Joe Fang and I were staying together for the tournament. Joe tried to reassure me, "he's just a little kid." I replied, "yes, but he has sharp teeth and claws!"

1.c4

Howell's favorite opening was and still is the Grunfeld, and I did not have much confidence facing it against a young tactician.

1…e5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 f5 7.d3 Nf6 8.0–0 0–0 9.Nd5 Ne7



The Botvinnik English was an opening I felt comfortable playing,

Photo: Tony Cortizas Jr.

as I had used it when I was younger (I did not start playing in real tournaments until I was 16) at the Billerica Chess Club.

10.Be3?!

But I make a mistake immediately and allow Black to seize the initiative. Better is 10.Nxf6+! Bxf6 11.Bh6 (11.d4 was recommended by Kosten) and White has easy development after either 11...Rf7 12.Qd2 or 11...Bg7 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qd2.

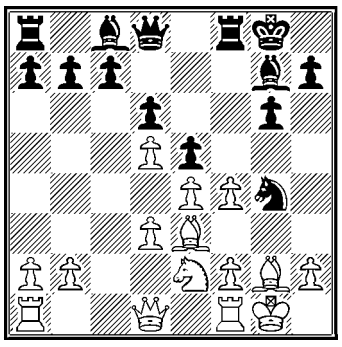
10...Nexd5!

Now Black is able to exchange off his less active knight.

11.cxd5 f4!

A well timed pawn sacrifice. Instead 11...Ng4 12.Bd2 f4 13.f3 Ne3 14.Bxe3 fxe3 is not so clear.

12.gxf4 Ng4



13.h3!

I already recognized the danger and spent 38 minutes here. I calculated a couple of lines which still look accurate in 2011:

a) 13.Qd2 Qh4 14.h3 Nxe3 15.fxe3 Bxh3 16.Bxh3 Qxh3 17.Rf2 Rf7 and with a safer king, Black is at least a little better.

b) 13.Bc1? Qh4 14.h3 Nh6 15.fxe5 Bxe5 gives Black a very strong attack:

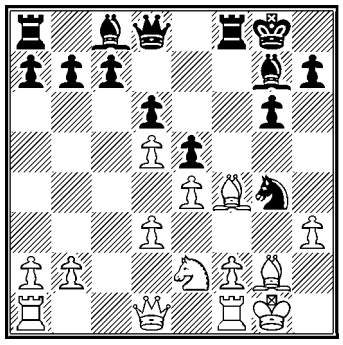
b1) 16.f4 Bxh3! 17.fxe5 Bxg2 18.Kxg2 Ng4

b2) 16.d4 Bxh3!! 17.dxe5 Ng4 18.Bf4 Bxg2 19.Kxg2 Rxf4 20.Nxf4 Qh2+ 21.Kf3 Rf8

13...exf4?!

This is a mistake, based on Black's next error. Instead 13...Nxe3 14.fxe3 exf4 15.exf4 Bxb2 16.Rb1 Bg7 would be unclear. Black has the bishop pair while White has more space and center pawns.

14.Bxf4



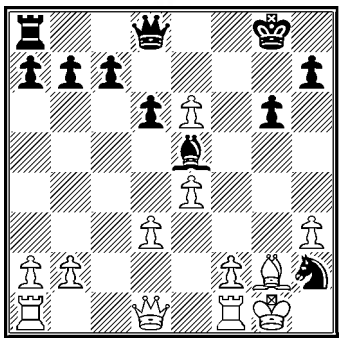
14...Rxf4?

This is just too much. I made a mistake on the 10th move, but that's it. Black can not just overrun White after one mistake. Better was 14...Ne5 when Black at least has a little bit of compensation for the pawn.

15.Nxf4 Be5 16.Ne6 Bxe6 17.dxe6 Nh2

"No pawn exchanges, no file-opening, no attack."

—Aaron Nimzowitsch



This does not really do much. White could even play 18.Re1. Even after 18…Qh4 Black does not really have anything other than some dark squared control for the exchange and a pawn. But White has a better way.

18.f4!

This returns some material but White seizes the initiative for good.

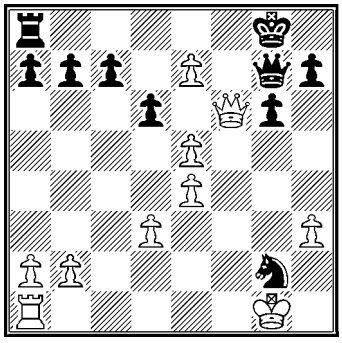
18…Nxf1 19.fxe5 Ne3 20.Qf3 Nxg2

There is no need to recapture the knight yet, so White can proceed with the attack.

21.Qf7+ Kh8 22.e7 Qg8

Instead 22...Qe8 loses after 23.Qf6+ Kg8 24.Rf1 Ne3 25.Qe6+ Kg7 (or 25...Kh8 26.Rf7) 26.Rf8.

23.Qf6+ Qg7



24.Rf1! Rg8 25.Kxg2 dxe5

After 25...h5 I had calculated 26.e6 (26.Qf8 also wins) 26...Kh7 27.Qxg7+ Kxg7 28.Rf7+ with the idea Rf8.

26.Qf8 1–0

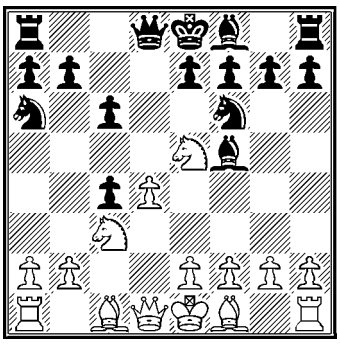
In Budapest I played a few game against the Berczes brothers. Csaba was older and stronger on my first trip in 2000, but in 2003 his younger brother David had been showing rapid improvement. Now David is a 2550 rated GM.

David Berczes, (2324)
David Vigorito, (2298)
[D17] Slav Defense
FSIM June Budapest HUN (4), 10.06.2003

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.Ne5

This is the critical line of the Slav. White intends to build a big center with f3 and e4, when the f5-bishop will be locked out of play. The main lines are very complicated and theoretical and I was not ready for them. I decided to play a sideline that my friend IM Cyrus Lakdawala had played with success. My preparation for this game was based on playing through some of Cyrus's blitz games on the ICC!

6...Na6



Really this move is probably a bit dubious and Black is better off with the main continuations 6…e6 and 6…Nbd7. Its main virtue is that it sets a trap that White is likely to fall into if he is not familiar with the line.

7.f3?!

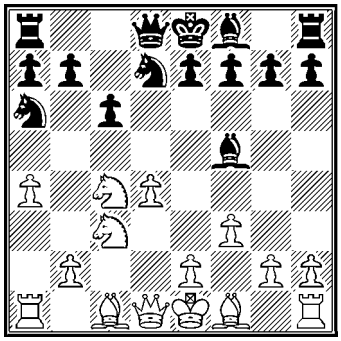
This is the trap! The problem is the quiet 7.e3! which I faced when I dared to repeat this line against GM Dash. He played this instantly and already I regretted my opening choice. 7...Nb4 8.Bxc4 (this line can

also come about from the move order (6.e3 Na6 7.Bxc4 Nb4 8.Ne5) 8…e6 (of course not 8...Nc2+ 9.Qxc2! Bxc2 10.Bxf7#) 9.0–0 Bd6 10.f4 h6 11.Qe2 Bc7 12.g4 Bh7 13.f5 Nbd5 14.e4 Nb6 15.Be3 Bxe5? 16.dxe5 Nxg4? 17.fxe6 Nxc4 18.exf7+ Kf8 19.Bc5+ 1–0 D.Sharavdorj-D.Vigorito, Las Vegas 2005. Ugh.

7...Nd7!

Black is looking to play a quick …e5 to exploit his better development and the weaknesses that White has created on the dark squares with the move 7.f3!?

8.Nxc4



If 8.e4 Nxe5 9.dxe5 (one trap is 9.exf5 Nd3+ 10.Bxd3 cxd3 11.Qxd3 Nb4 with the idea 12.Qd1 Qxd4!) 9...Qxd1+ 10.Nxd1 Be6 and Black stands very well. Black is also happy after 8.Nxd7 Bxd7 9.e4 e5! 10.Bxc4 (or 10.dxe5 Be6) 10...exd4 11.Qxd4 Nb4. White's weaknesses on the queenside come back to haunt him. This is one point of the Slav for Black – White weakens his queenside with the move 5.a4 and must not lose the initiative or he can run into trouble.

8...e5! 9.e4

Instead 9.dxe5 loses a piece to 9… Qh4+ 10.g3 Qxc4. White gets it back after 11.e4 , but Black is still doing well after 11…Qe6 12.exf5 Qxe5+. White is certainly not better after 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Nb4 11.e4 Be6.

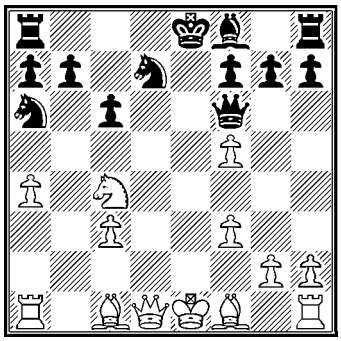
9...exd4 10.exf5

After 10.Qxd4 Nb4! 11.Qd1 (White should try 11.Na3 Be6 when Black is only a little better) 11...Be6 and Black intends ...Nc5 when the weaknesses of the b3- and d3-squares give Black a big advantage.

10...dxc3 11.bxc3

The tactical try 11.Qe2+ Be7 12.Nd6+ Kf8 13.Nxb7 loses after 13…Qb6 14.Qxa6 (14.bxc3 Re8!) 14...Bh4+! (14...cxb2 wins too) 15.g3 Re8+ 16.Kd1 (16.Be2 Qxa6) 16...Qb3 mate!

11...Qf6

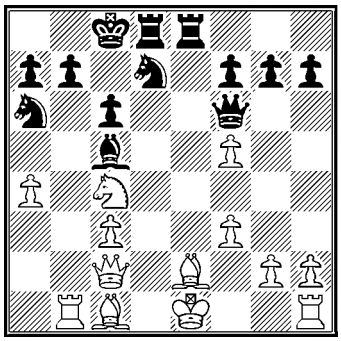


This was an idea I got from Cyrus's blitz games. Black will castle long and bring both rooks to the center. The game has a very classical feel to it (for Black!)

12.Qc2 0–0–0 13.Be2 Bc5

This prevents White from castling, but 13...Nb4 is strong too.

14.Rb1 Rhe8

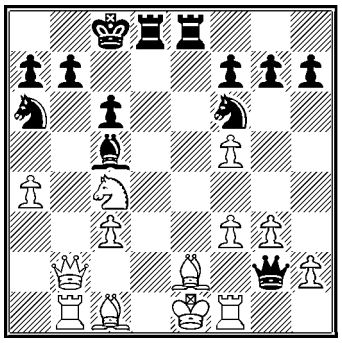


White's position is in shambles. My opening experiment worked (this once, at least) against a 2300+ FM opponent. In this kind of tournament, it is important not to lose when norm-hunting, while a win with Black was very big, especially as I had drawn my first three games.

15.Kf1?

This just loses time. The sad moves 15.g3 (intending Kf1-g2) and 15.h4 (stopping …Qh4) were better attempts at survival.

15...Qh4 16.g3 Qh3+ 17.Ke1 Qg2 18.Rf1 Nf6 19.Qb2



White gets to threaten mate.

19...Nb4!

Black threatens …Nd3+ and White is mated after 20.cxb4 Bxb4+ 21.Qxb4 Qxe2#

0–1

IM David Vigorito is the author of several highly acclaimed books. Signed copies are available, and he can also be reached for private and group lessons, lectures, and exhibitions at dvigorito@msn.com.

MACA's Boston Chess Education Expo, Jan. 6-8, East Boston

Concurrent with Continental Amateur! Volunteers needed to staff educational exhibits and mentor non-chess attendees at workshops. Chess masters to amateurs welcome for novice outreach. Rates for exhibitors on request.
Contact Stephen Dann, 508-753-7270, steveadann@gmail.com. More details at www.masschess.org by late November!

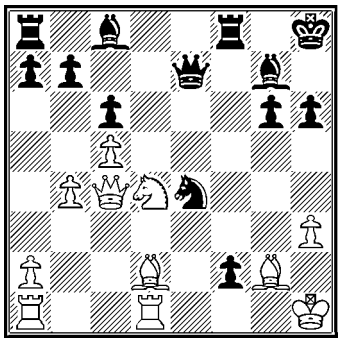
Marlboro Action Swiss

by Bob Messenger

GM Alexander Ivanov coasted home with three wins and a last round draw against second seeded NM Robert Perez to win the Marlboro Action Swiss, which was held on September 18th at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Marlboro, Mass. IM Jim Rizzitano finished second with 3-1, losing to Ivanov in round three but beating Perez and two lower rated players. He finished in fine style with a last round win against Massachusetts Age 14 & Under champion Grant Xu. Agustin Garcia and Alan Strelzoff split the Under 2000 prize, each scoring one point. In the Under 1800 Section David Martin and Jesse Gechtman, who was playing in his first rated tournament, tied for first with 3-1, with Tal Puhov and Eric Feng tying for the Under 1600 and Under 1400 prizes with 2.5-1.5. Stefan Grosser won the Under 1200 prize with 1.5-2.5, including a 770 point upset in round three. The games were played at a time control of game in 30 minutes. Although the turnout of 15 players plus a house player was disappointingly small the Open section was strong, with four masters and two experts. Bob Messenger organized and directed the tournament for Granite State Chess.

Grant Xu (2171)
IM James Rizzitano (2356)
[E67] King's Indian Defense
Marlboro Action Swiss Marlboro, Mass (4), 18.09.2011

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3 Bg7 4.Bg2 0-0 5.Nf3 d6 6.d4 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.Qc2 Qe7 10.e4 c6 11.h3 Nc5 12.Be3 Nfd7 13.Rfd1 f5 14.Bg5 Qf7 15.b4 Ne6 16.Be3 f4 17.Bd2 Nd4 18.Qd3 fxg3 19.Ng5 gxf2+ 20.Kh1 Qe7 21.c5 Nf6 22.Qc4+ Kh8 23.Ne2 h6 24.Nxd4 exd4 25.Nf3 Nxe4 26.Nxd4



Ng3+ 27.Kh2 Qe5 28.Nf3 Nf1+ 29.Kh1 Qh2+ 30.Nxh2 Ng3# 0-1

"As a rule, the more mistakes there are in a game, the more memorable it remains, because you have suffered and worried over each mistake at the board." —Victor Kortchnoi

Evan Meyer & Andrew Liu 1st at Marlboro Youth Blitz

by Bob Messenger

The Marlboro Youth Blitz tournament was held on September 18th at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Marlboro, Mass. Each player played ten games, two games each round for five rounds, with a time control of five minutes for each game. Since only 15 players entered the tournament all three sections (Age 18 & Under, Age 12 & Under, and Age 8 & Under) were combined into a single section and players won prizes based on their age, rating, number of points and tiebreak points. The trophy winners were:

1st Age 18 & Under: Evan Meyer (9-1)
1st Age 12 & Under: Andrew Liu (9-1)
2nd Age 18 & Under: Gershon Gilman (7-3)
3rd Age 18 & Under: Benjamin Piche (6-4)
2nd Age 12 & Under: Justin Wu (6-4)
3rd Age 12 & Under: Alan Sikarov (6-4)
1st Age 8 & Under: Alexander Ying (5-5)
Top Under 1000: August Donovan (4.5-5.5)
Top Under 800: Andres Garro-Duplisea (4.5-5.5)
2nd Age 8 & Under: Raghav Srinivasan (4-6)
3rd Age 8 & Under: David Liu (2.5-7.5)

Adam Piche (6-4) and Adam Maimon (4.5-5.5) won medals. Bob Messenger organized and directed the tournament for Granite State Chess.

Games Submitted for "Most Interesting Game" Prize

by FM John Curdo

Seventy-seven (77) games were entered in the 80th Mass. Open "Most Interesting Game" contest. As judge, the games were given to me "blind" —meaning no players' names. My selections, no doubt, had to be influenced by my 65-year-long love affair with classical chess. It's no small coincidence that all the games feature mating attacks.

OPEN

The Open section had 16 entries, many of them fine games. The chosen one spiked my interest because White's modern maneuver (11. b4) was met by the same idea (15...b5) when Black ended up with a slight lead in development! White's pieces became awkward, while trying to develop, resulting in material loss. Then his attempts at counterplay gave Black a mating attack. The neat finish would be 33. Kxh3 Nf4+ 34. gxf4 Qf3+ 35. Kh4 Be7 mate.

David Plotkin (2189)
Carey Theil (2208)
[A37] English Opening
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

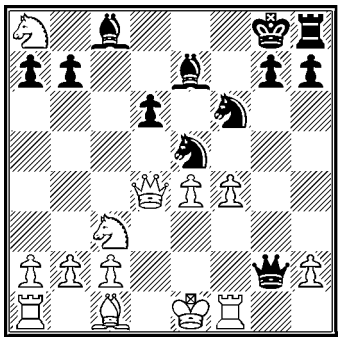
1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 g6 4.Bg2 Bg7 5.Nf3 d6 6.0-0 Bd7 7.a3 a5 8.Rb1 Rb8 9.Ne1 Nf6 10.Nc2 0-0 11.b4 axb4 12.axb4 cxb4 13.Nxb4 Qa5 14.Nbd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 b5 16.Rxb5 Rxb5 17.cxb5 Qxb5 18.d3 e6 19.Ne3 d5 20.Bd2 Nd4 21.Nc2 Nb3 22.Bb4 Rc8 23.Qb1 Rxc2 24.Qxc2 Qxb4 25.Rb1 Nd4 26.Qa2 Qa4 27.Rb8+ Bf8 28.Qd2 Kg7 29.Qb2 Qd1+ 30.Bf1 e5 31.Qb1 Nxe2+ 32.Kg2 Bh3+ 0-1

Agustin Garcia
GM Alexander Ivanov (2608)
[A35] English Opening
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.Nf3 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.d4 c5 4.Nc3 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Nc6 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.Qa4 Qb6 8.Bd2 Nf6 9.e3 0-0 10.Be2 d5 11.Nd1 e5 12.Ba5 Qb7 13.Rc1 d4 14.exd4 exd4 15.0-0 Bg4 16.f3 Bf5 17.Nf2 Bh6 18.Bd3 Bxc1 19.Rxc1 Bxd3 20.Nxd3 Rfe8 21.Qc2 Nh5 22.Kf2 Qe7 23.Re1 Qh4+ 24.Kg1 Ng7 25.Qf2 Qf6 26.Bd2 Rxe1+ 27.Qxe1 Re8 28.Qd1 Qe6 29.b3 Qe2 30.Qc2 Nf5 31.Nf4 Qe7 32.Qd3 Qe5 33.Kf2 Ne3 34.g3 Nd1+ 35.Kf1 Nc3 36.h4 Nxa2 and Black won 0-1

Shrirangnath Havale (1878)
FM David Finol
[C41] Philidor Defense
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

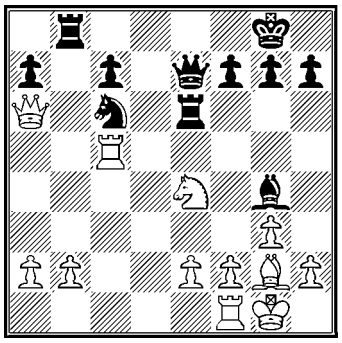
1.e4 d6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.d4 Nbd7 5.Bc4 Be7 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Ng5+ Kg8 8.Ne6 Qe8 9.Nxc7 Qg6 10.Nxa8 Qxg2 11.Rf1 exd4 12.Qxd4 Ne5 13.f4



Nfg4 14.Qd5+ Nf7 15.Qc4 Be6 16.Qe2 Bh4+ 17.Kd2 Nf2 18.Nc7 Bg4 19.Rxf2 Bxf2 20.Qb5 Bb6+ 21.Ne2 Qxe2+ 22.Qxe2 Bxe2 23.Kxe2 Bxc7 24.Be3 h6 25.Bxa7 b6 26.Rd1 Kh7 27.Rd4 Ra8 28.Ra4 Kg6 29.Kd3 Nd8 30.Kc4 Nc6 and Black won 0-1

IM Jonathan Yedidia (2448)
Carey Theil (2208)
[E00] Queen's Pawn Game
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 Bb4+ 4.Bd2 Qe7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.Nf3 Bxd2+ 7.Qxd2 d6 8.Nc3 e5 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Rac1 Bg4 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.cxd5 Rfd8 14.Qc2 Rxd5 15.Qb3 Rd6 16.Rc5 e4 17.Ng5 Rg6 18.Nxe4 Re6 19.Qxb7 Rb8 20.Qa6



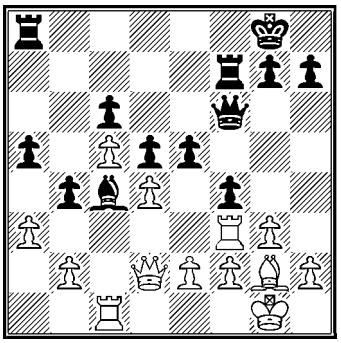
Rxe4 21.Rxc6 Rxe2 22.Qxa7 Rexb2 23.Rxc7 Qe6 24.a4 h6 25.a5 Be2 26.Bb7 Rd8 27.Rfc1 Rbd2 28.Rc8 Rxc8 29.Bxc8 Qd5 30.f3 Rd1+ 31.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 32.Kf2 Qf1+ 33.Ke3 Qg1+ 0-1

GM Arthur Bisguier (2220)
Shrirangnath Havale (1878)
[C26] Vienna Game
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 c6 4.d4 Bb4 5.dxe5 Nxe4 6.Qd4 Qa5 7.Nge2 d5 8.exd6 Nxd6 9.Qxg7 Rf8 10.Bg2 Bf5 11.0-0 Nd7 12.Nd4 0-0-0 13.Nxf5 Qxf5 14.Bf4 Rg8 15.Qd4 Bc5 16.Qd3 Qf6 17.Rad1 Ne5 18.Qe2 Ng6 19.Bxd6 Bxd6 20.Ne4 Qe6 21.Nxd6+ Rxd6 22.Qe4 1-0

Denys Shmelov (2530)
Alexander Cherniack (2302)
[A90] Dutch Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

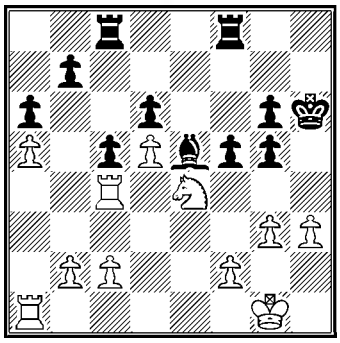
1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nh3 c6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Nd2 0-0 8.Qc2 b6 9.Nf3 Bb7 10.Nf4 Qe7 11.Nd3 Nbd7 12.Bf4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 Ne4 14.Rfd1 Rac8 15.Qb3 Rc7 16.Rac1 Rfc8 17.Qe3 b5 18.c5 a5 19.Nd3 Ra8 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Ng5 22.Qc3 Qf6 23.Rd3 b4 24.Qd2 Ba6 25.Rb3 Nf7 26.Nxf7 Rxf7 27.a3 Bc4 28.Re3 f4 29.Rf3 e5



30.Bf1 g5 31.dxe5 Qxe5 32.axb4 axb4 33.Qxb4 Raf8 34.Qc3 Qe6 35.Rc2 Qh6 36.Bg2 g4 37.Rxf4 Rxf4 38.gxf4 Qxf4 39.Qe3 Qf5 40.Be4 dxe4 41.Rxc4 Re8 42.b4 h5 43.Rd4 Re6 44.Rd8+ Kf7 45.Rd7+ Kg6 46.Qd4 Kg5 47.Rg7+ Kh6 48.Rg8 Rf6 49.Qe3+ Kh7 50.Rg5 1-0

Carey Theil (2208)
FM Christopher Chase (2387)
[B08] Pirc Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Be2 a6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 Nc6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Be3 Bg4 10.Qd2 Kh7 11.d5 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Ne5 13.Be2 e6 14.a4 exd5 15.exd5 Nfg4 16.Bxg4 Nxg4 17.Bd4 Qh4 18.h3 Ne5 19.Re4 Qg5 20.Qxg5 hxg5 21.Bxe5 Bxe5 22.Rc4 Rac8 23.Ne4 Kh6 24.g3 c5 25.a5 f5



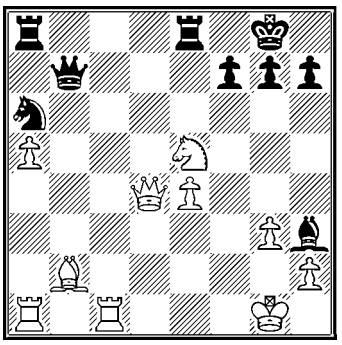
26.Nxg5 Kxg5 27.f4+ Bxf4 28.Rxf4 Rfe8 29.Raf1 Re5 30.c4 Rce8 31.Kg2 b5 32.axb6 Rb8 33.R1f2 Rxb6 34.R4f3 Re1 35.Ra3 Kf6 36.g4 Rb7 37.gxf5 gxf5 38.Raf3 Rg7+ 39.Kh2 Rg5 40.Rf4 Ke5 41.h4 Rh5 42.Kg3 a5 43.Kf3 a4 44.Kg3 Re3+ 45.Kg2 Re4 46.Kg3 Kd4 47.Rxf5 Rhxh4 48.Rc2 Reg4+ 49.Kf3 Rg6 50.Rf8 Rg1 51.Ra8 Rf1+ 52.Kg3 Rfh1 53.Rg2 Ke3 54.Re8+ Kd3 55.Ra8 R1h3+ 56.Kf2 Rxc4 57.Rg6 Rc2+ 58.Kg1 Re3 59.Kf1 Rc1+ 60.Kg2 Re2+ 0-1

Avraam Pismennyy (2330)
Patrick Chi (2069)
[D12] Queen's Gambit Declined
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.c4 c6 2.Nf3 d5 3.e3 Nf6 4.d4 Bf5 5.Qb3 Qc7 6.cxd5 cxd5 7.Nc3 e6 8.Bd2 Nc6 9.Rc1 Be7 10.Ne5 0-0 11.f4 Nd7 12.Be2 Ndxe5 13.fxe5 Qd7 14.Na4 f6 15.exf6 Rxf6 16.0-0 Raf8 17.Bf3 g5 18.h3 Bxh3 19.Nc5 Bxc5 20.Rxc5 g4 21.Be2 Rxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Qf7 23.Qd1 Qf2+ 0-1

IM David Vigorito (2535)
Denys Shmelov (2530)
[A17] English Opening
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

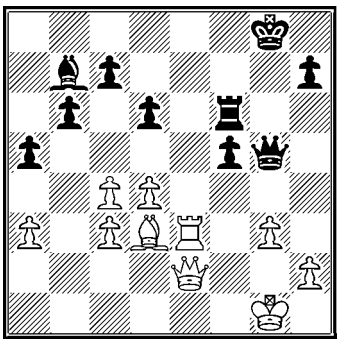
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3 6.Qxc3 b6 7.g3 Bb7 8.Bg2 d6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.b4 c5 11.Bb2 Rc8 12.d3 Re8 13.Rfe1 Rc7 14.b5 a6 15.bxa6 Bxa6 16.a4 Ra7 17.a5 b5 18.cxb5 Bxb5 19.Nd2 Qc7 20.d4 Bc6 21.e4 cxd4 22.Qxd4 e5 23.Qc3 Nc5 24.Rec1 Rc8 25.f4 Nfd7 26.Bh3 Raa8 27.fxe5 dxe5 28.Qe3 Na6 29.Nc4 Re8 30.Bxd7 Bxd7 31.Nxe5 Qb7 32.Qd4 Bh3



33.Nd7 f6 34.Nxf6+ gxf6 35.Qxf6 Qa7+ 36.Bd4 1-0

Eric Meyer (2024)
Grant Xu (2124)
[E43] Nimzo-Indian Defense
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.d4 e6 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 b6 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Bb7 7.Nf3 Ne4 8.Qc2 d6 9.Bd3 f5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nd2 Nxd2 12.Bxd2 g6 13.e4 Nd7 14.Bh6 Rf7 15.f4 Nf6 16.Bg5 Qf8 17.Bxf6 Rxf6 18.exf5 exf5 19.Rfe1 a5 20.Re3 Re8 21.Rae1 Rxe3 22.Rxe3 Qh6 23.g3 g5 24.fxg5 Qxg5 25.Qe2



Rf7 26.d5 Kg7 27.Re8 c6 28.Qe6 Qc1+ 29.Bf1 Qxc3 30.Re7 Qd4+ 31.Kg2 Qe4+ 32.Qxe4 fxe4 33.Rxe4 cxd5 34.Rg4+ Kf8 35.Kg1 dxc4 36.Bxc4 d5 37.Bb5 Ke7 38.a4 Kd6 39.Rg8 Kc5 40.g4 Kd4 41.g5

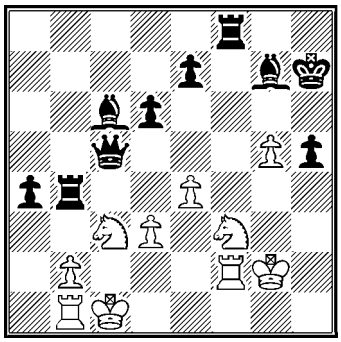
Ke5 42.g6 hxg6 43.Rxg6 Rf6 44.Rg7 Bc6 45.Bxc6 Rxc6 46.Rg4 Rf6 47.h4 d4 48.Rg5+ Ke4 49.Rb5 d3 0-1

Lawyer Times (2237)
Grant Xu (2124)
[A46] Queen's Pawn Game
80th MA Open (4), 29.05.2011

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.Bd3 cxd4 5.exd4 b6 6.0-0 Be7 7.Re1 Bb7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.c3 d6 10.Ng5 Nbd7 11.f4 h6 12.Ngf3 Re8 13.Nf1 Bf8 14.Ng3 e5 15.fxe5 dxe5 16.Bb5 exd4 17.cxd4 Rxe1+ 18.Qxe1 a6 19.Bc4 Qc7 20.Bb3 Bd6 21.Nf5 Bxf3 22.gxf3 Bxh2+ 23.Kh1 Nh5 24.Qe7 Rf8 25.Nxh6+ gxh6 26.Bxh6 Qg3 27.Bxf8 Qxf3+ 28.Kxh2 Qf2+ 29.Kh1 Ng3# 0-1

Grant Xu (2124)
FM David Finol
[B25] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 g6 5.f4 Bg7 6.d3 Nf6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.0-0 Rb8 9.h3 b5 10.g4 Ne8 11.Ne2 a5 12.f5 a4 13.a3 Bd7 14.h4 b4 15.axb4 cxb4 16.c3 Na5 17.h5 Nb3 18.Rb1 Nf6 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.Bh3 Nxc1 21.Qxc1 bxc3 22.Nxc3 Rb4 23.Rf2 Bc6 24.fxg6 fxg6 25.g5 Nh5 26.Be6+ Kh7 27.Bg4 Qb6 28.Bxh5 gxh5 29.Kg2 Qc5



30.Qh1 Be8 31.Nd5 Rb3 32.Rc1 Qa5 33.Rc7 Rxd3 34.Rxe7 Rfxf3 35.Rxf3 Qd2+ 36.Kh3 Qe2 37.Rxd3 Qxd3+ 38.Kh4 Qe2 39.Qg1 Bg6 40.Nf4 Qf3 41.Qg3 Qh1+ 42.Nh3 Qd1 43.Nf2 Qd2 44.Qf3 Kg8 45.Re6 Bf7 46.Re7 Bg6 47.Nd3 Qh2+ 48.Qh3 Qe2 49.Qe6+ Kh7 50.Qxg6+ 1-0

UNDER 2100

This section had the least number of entries with 15 games. In my choice, Black was too casual, keeping lines open (11...bxa4 and 20...Kc7), allowing White to pressure his king. White finishes nicely with a middle-of-the board Arabian-style mate.

Nicholas Plotkin (1791)
Richard Rose (1919)
[B30] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 Qa5 4.Bc4 e6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 c4 7.Bc2 Bb7 8.d4 cxd3 9.Qxd3 d6 10.Nd4 a6 11.a4 bxa4 12.Bxa4 Qc7 13.Nxc6 Bxc6 14.Qc4 Kd7 15.Be3 Bxa4 16.Rxa4 Qxc4 17.Rxc4 Ne7 18.Rd1 Nc6 19.f4 Be7 20.e5 Kc7 21.exd6+ Bxd6 22.Bb6+ Kxb6 23.Rxd6 Rhc8 24.Nd2 Kb5 25.Rdxc6 Rxc6 26.Rb4+ Kc5 27.Ne4+ 1-0

Paul Felker (1785)
Richard Rose (1919)
[B35] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 g6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bc4 Qa5 8.f3 Qb4 9.Bb3 Nxe4 10.a3 Nxc3 11.Qd3 Qa5 12.bxc3 0-0 13.0-0 b6 14.Nxc6 dxc6 15.Bd4 Rd8 16.Qe4 Be6 17.Qxc6 Bxb3 18.cxb3 Bxd4+ 19.cxd4 Qd5 20.Qxd5 Rxd5 21.Rfd1 Rad8 22.Rac1 R8d7 23.Rc8+ Kg7 24.f4 Kf6 25.Kf2 Rxd4 26.Rxd4 Rxd4 27.Ke3 Rd5 28.b4 h5 29.Rc7 a6 30.Ra7 a5 31.bxa5 bxa5 32.Ke4 e6 33.a4 g5 34.g3 gxf4 35.gxf4 Rd2 36.h4 Rh2 37.Rxa5 Rxh4 38.Rb5 Rh1 39.a5 h4 40.Kf3 h3 41.Kg3 h2 42.Kg2 Rf1 43.Kxh2 Rxf4 44.a6 Ra4 45.Rb6 Ra3 46.Kg2 Kf5 47.Kf2 f6 48.Ke2 e5 49.Kd2 e4 50.Ke2 Ke5 51.Rc6 f5 52.Rb6 Kf4 53.Re6 Ra2+ 54.Kd1 Ke3 55.Rb6 f4 56.Rb3+ Kf2 57.Rb4 Kf3 58.Rb6 e3 59.Re6 Kf2 60.Kc1 e2 61.Kb1 Ra5 0-1

Scott Didham (1930)
Robert Feldstein (2000)
[A57] Benko Gambit
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.Nf3 bxc4 5.Nc3 e6 6.e4 exd5 7.e5 d4 8.exf6 Qxf6 9.Bxc4 dxc3 10.Bg5 Qd6 11.Qe2+ Be7 12.Rd1 cxb2 13.0-0 Qe6 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Bxe7 Kxe7 16.Qxb2 Rg8 17.Qe5 Na6 18.Qe4 Rb8 19.Qxh7 Bb7 20.Qh4+ Ke8 21.Ne5 d5 22.Qa4+ Ke7 23.Qd7+ Kf6 24.Qf7+ Kxe5 25.Rfe1+ Kd6 26.Rxe6# 1-0

Tim Bromley (1913)
Thomas Provost (1805)
[A80] Dutch Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.d4 f5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 g6 4.e3 Bg7 5.Bc4 c6 6.c3 d5 7.Bb3 h6 8.Ne5 g5 9.Bg3 Be6 10.Nd2 Nbd7 11.Nd3 Bf7 12.f3 Bg6 13.Qe2 Nh5 14.e4 Nxg3 15.hxg3 fxe4 16.fxe4 Qc7 17.0-0-0 Qxg3 18.Rh3 Qd6 19.Re1 dxe4 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxe4 Bf6 22.Qg6+ Kd8 23.Re6 Qb8 24.Qf5 Kc7 25.Rhe3 Qd8 26.d5 cxd5 27.Nb4 Rc8 28.Nxd5+ Kb8 29.Nxf6 exf6 30.Rd6 Rc7 31.Red3 Qe7 32.Rxd7 Rxd7 33.Qxd7 Qxd7 34.Rxd7 f5 35.Bd5 h5 36.Rxb7+ Kc8 37.Rxa7 Rh6 38.Rf7 f4 39.Kd2 Rb6 40.b4 Ra6 41.Bb7+ 1-0

"Best by test: 1. e4"
—Bobby Fischer

George Winsor (1947)
Michael Manisy (1815)
[C11] French Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Nf3 c5 6.Be3 cxd4 7.Bxd4 a6 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.Be2 Be7 10.0-0 g5 11.Nxd5 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 exd5 13.e6 Bf6 14.exd7+ Bxd7 15.Qxd5 g4 16.Ne5 Be6 17.Qe4 h5 18.Rad1 Qc7 19.Nc4 Kf8 20.b3 Kg7 21.Ne3 Rag8 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Re8 24.Qd3 Be5 25.g3 Rh6 26.c4 Bd6 27.Bd1 Ree6 28.Bc2 Qe7 29.Qc3+ Be5 30.Qd2 Bf6 31.Rd7 Qe8 32.Bf5 Re5 33.Qd3 Qh8 34.Rxb7 h4 35.Bxg4 hxg3 36.Qxg3 Rg5 37.f4 Bd4+ 38.Kg2 Rxh2+ 39.Kf3 Rg6 40.f5 Rg5 41.f6+ Kg6 42.Ke4 Rh4 43.Qd3 Rhxg4+ 44.Kf3+ Kxf6 45.Ke2+ Ke6 46.Rbxf7 Rg2+ 47.Kd1 Qh5+ 48.Kc1 Qe2 49.Qh3+ Kd6 50.Qd7+ Kc5 51.Qc7+ Kb4 52.a3+ Kc3 53.R7f3+ Be3+ 54.Rxe3+ Qxe3+ 55.Kb1 Qd3+ 0-1

Scott Didham (1947)
Jason Rihel (1815)
[E70] King's Indian Defense
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Bg5 0-0 6.f4 Na6 7.Nf3 c5 8.d5 h6 9.Bh4 Ng4 10.Qd2 Nb4 11.Rc1 Qd7 12.a3 Na6 13.Bd3 e6 14.0-0 Nc7 15.h3 Nf6 16.e5 Nfe8 17.exd6 Qxd6 18.Ne4 Qb6 19.Bf2 Nd6 20.Nxc5 Qxb2 21.Rc2 Qxa3 22.Ne5 b6 23.Ra2 Qxa2 24.Qxa2 bxc5 25.Bxc5 Rd8 26.Qa5 Bxe5 27.fxe5 Nb7 28.Qxc7 Rd7 29.Qc6 1-0

Paul Felker (1785)
Thomas Provost (1805)
[C88] Ruy Lopez
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a4 d6 9.axb5 Nb8 10.h3 Nbd7 11.c3 Bb7 12.d3 axb5 13.Rxa8 Qxa8 14.Nbd2 c5 15.Bc2 Rc8 16.Qe2 Bd8 17.Nf1 h6 18.Ng3 c4 19.Nf5 d5 20.Nd6 dxe4 21.dxe4 Rb8 22.b3 Qa6 23.Rd1 Bc7 24.Nxb7 cxb3 25.Bxb3 Qxb7 26.Bd5 Qc8 27.Nh4 Bd8 28.Nf5 Kf8 29.Ba3+ Nc5 30.Nd6 Qc7 31.Nxb5 Rxb5 32.Qxb5 Be7 33.Rb1 Ncd7 34.Bxe7+ Kxe7 35.c4 Qa7 36.Qb2 Ke8 37.Ra1 Qc7 38.Qb4 Nc5 39.Ra8+ Ke7 40.Qb5 Ncxe4 41.Bxe4 Nxe4 42.Qa4 Kf6 43.Ra6+ Kg5 44.Qc6 Qxc6 45.Rxc6 Kf5 46.Rc7 Ke6 47.f3 Nd2 48.c5 e4 49.fxe4 Nxe4 50.c6 g6 51.Ra7 Nd6 52.Kf1 f6 53.Rh7 h5 54.Rh8 Nb5 55.Rh6 Kf7 56.c7 1-0

Leonid Tkach (2025)
Jason Rihel (1970)
[B92] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.a4 b6 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.a5 b5 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.Qxd5 Rb8 13.Qd2 Bb7 14.f3 0-0 15.0-0 Nf6 16.Bb6 Qd7 17.Rfd1 Qe6 18.Rac1 Rbc8 19.Qe3 d5 20.Nc5 Qxb6 21.axb6 Bxc5 0-1

Robert Feldstein (2000)
Nicholas Plotkin (1793)
[C31] Falkbeer Countergambit
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.exd5 e4 4.c4 Nf6 5.Ne2 Bc5 6.b4 Bd6 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.Qb3 b6 9.Nb5 Bb7 10.Nxd6 Qxd6 11.Ba3 Nbd7 12.Rc1 c6 13.dxc6 Bxc6 14.b5 Nc5 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.bxc6 Ng4 17.Qg3 e3 18.Qxg4 exd2+ 19.Kxd2 Qb4+ 20.Ke3 Rfe8+ 21.Kf3 Qc5 22.Rc3 Qxc6+ 23.Kg3 Qc5 24.Qf3 Re6 25.Qxa8+ 1-0

Glen Mitchell Perry (1800)
Tim Bromley (1900)
[E19] Queen's Indian Defense
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.c4 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 Ne4 8.Qc2 Nxc3 9.Qxc3 c5 10.b3 d6 11.Bb2 Bf6 12.Qd2 Qe7 13.Rad1 Rd8 14.d5 Bxb2 15.Qxb2 exd5 16.cxd5 Nd7 17.Rfe1 Re8 18.e4 Rad8 19.Nd2 Bxd5 20.exd5 Qxe1+ 21.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 22.Bf1 Re5 23.Bc4 Re1+ 24.Kg2 Ne5 25.Bb5 Ra8 26.Nf3 Nxf3 27.Kxf3 a6 28.Qd2 Re7 29.Bc6 Rb8 30.Qf4 Re5 31.Qg4 a5 32.Qc4 h5 33.h3 g5 34.Kg2 Kg7 35.f4 gxf4 36.gxf4 Re3 37.Qf1 Kh6 38.Kf2 Re4 39.Kf3 Re7 40.Qg1 f6 41.f5 Rg7 42.Qe3+ Kh7 43.Be8 Rbb7 44.Bg6+ Kh8 45.Qe8+ Rg8 46.Qe6 1-0

Scott Didham (1930)
Paul Felker (1785)
[E20] Nimzo-Indian Defense
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.g3 0-0 5.Bg2 d5 6.Qb3 Bxc3+ 7.bxc3 b6 8.Bg5 Bb7 9.Nf3 Nbd7 10.cxd5 exd5 11.0-0 h6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Nd2 Qe6 14.e4 Nf6 15.e5 Nd7 16.f4 c6 17.f5 Qe7 18.Rae1 Qg5 19.Qd1 Ba6 20.Rf4 h5 21.Nf3 Qh6 22.h4 Rfe8 23.Ng5 Nf8 24.Bf3 g6 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.fxg6+ Kg7 27.Rf7+ Kg8 28.Bxh5 Nxg6 29.Rf6 Kh8 30.Rxg6 Qh7 31.Qd2 Rg8 32.Rh6 Rxg3+ 33.Kh2 Rag8 34.Rxh7+ Kxh7 35.e6 Bc8 36.Bf7 R8g7 37.h5 R3g4 38.Bg6+ Kg8 39.Kh3 1-0

Jason Rihel (1970)
Robert Feldstein (2000)
[B05] Alekhine's Defense
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Be2 e6 6.0-0 Be7 7.exd6 cxd6 8.Re1 0-0 9.Nbd2 Nc6 10.Nf1 Rc8 11.Ng3 Bh4 12.Nxh4 Bxe2 13.Rxe2 Qxh4 14.Re4 Qd8 15.Nh5 g6 16.Bh6 Re8 17.Ng7 Re7 18.Qf3 Qb6 19.c4 Qxb2 20.Rae1 Nc7 21.Qf6 d5 22.Nf5

Ne8 23.Nxe7+ Nxe7 24.Qxe7 Ng7 25.Rf4 Rf8 26.cxd5 Qd2 27.Rf1 exd5 28.Rxf7 Rxf7 29.Qd8+ Rf8 30.Qxd5+ Kh8 31.Bxd2 b6 32.Bh6 Rg8 33.Qe5 g5 34.Rc1 g4 35.Bxg7+ Rxg7 36.Rc8# 1-0

Jason Rihel (1970)
Thomas Provost (1805)
[C95] Ruy Lopez
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3 d6 9.c3 Nb8 10.d4 Nbd7 11.Nbd2 Bb7 12.a4 h6 13.Bc2 Re8 14.Nf1 Bf8 15.Ng3 d5 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Rxe5 18.Bf4 Re7 19.e5 Nd7 20.Qd3 g6 21.e6 Nc5 22.exf7+ Rxf7 23.Qxg6+ Rg7 24.Qxh6 Qd7 25.Be5 Rxg3 26.Qh8+ Kf7 27.Qf6+ Kg8 28.fxg3 Bg7 29.Qxg7+ Qxg7 30.Bxg7 Kxg7 31.Re7+ Kf6 32.Rxc7 Rc8 33.Rf1+ 1-0

Jason Rihel (1970)
John Elmore (1991)
[B12] Caro-Kann Defense
80th MA Open (4), 29.05.2011

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 c5 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Nc3 Nc6 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxd4 Qa5 11.Bb5+ Kd8 12.a3 a6 13.b4 Qc7 14.Na4 Bxc2 15.Qf3 Bxa4 16.Bxa4 Rc8 17.Rac1 Qxc1 18.Qxf7 1-0

Tim Bromley (1900)
Paul Felker (1785)
[E32] Nimzo-Indian Defense
80th MA Open (4), 29.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 b6 7.Bg5 d5 8.Nf3 Bb7 9.e3 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.cxd5 Bxd5 12.Qxc7 Nc6 13.Be2 Rac8 14.Qg3 Na5 15.Nd2 Rc2 16.b4 Nb7 17.Bd3 Rc3 18.Ne4 Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Qe7 20.Kd2 Nd6 21.Bd3 Rfc8 22.Ra2 Qc7 23.Rha1 Rxd3+ 24.Kxd3 Qc4+ 0-1

UNDER 1800

This section had the most submissions, 24 games. My choice here was easier, a Sicilian Dragon! I've always had difficulties balancing attack and defense. White has the right idea here: me attack, you defend.

Larry Eldridge (1799)
Alexander Szejman (1609)
[B54] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Qd2 Nf6 9.f3 0-0 10.0-0-0 Ne5 11.Bb3 b5 12.h4 h5 13.Bg5 Bd7 14.Kb1 Nc4 15.Qe1 Rc8 16.Nd5 Nxd5 17.exd5 Re8 18.g4 hxg4 19.h5 Bf6 20.f4 Bxg5 21.fxg5 Kg7 22.hxg6 fxg6 23.Rh7+ Kxh7 24.Qh4+ Kg8 25.Rh1 Nd2+ 26.Kc1 Nxb3+ 27.axb3 Rf8 28.Qh7# 1-0

Thomas Sifter (1643)
Edwin Burnett (1500)
[B13] Caro-Kann Defense
80th MA Open (2), 28.05.2011

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Bf4 Nf6 6.Bd3 e6 7.Nd2 Bd6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.Qf3 Be7 11.Ne2 e5 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Qg3 Nxd3+ 15.Qxd3 Re8 16.0-0 a6 17.Nd4 Bxd4 18.Qxd4 Be6 19.Rfe1 Rc8 20.Re3 Rc7 21.Rae1 Rce7 22.Rg3 g6 23.Nf3 Kh7 24.Ng5+ hxg5 25.Rxe6 f5 26.Rh3+ Kg8 27.Rh8+ Kf7 28.Qf6# 1-0

Larry Eldridge (1799)
Conway Xu (1313)
[D53] Queen's Gambit Declined
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.e3 Be7 6.Nf3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Bxe7 Qxe7 9.Nxd5 exd5 10.dxc5 Qxc5 11.Qd2 Nf6 12.Rc1 Qd6 13.Bb5+ Bd7 14.Bxd7+ Qxd7 15.0-0 0-0 16.Rfd1 Rad8 17.Qd4 b6 18.Ne5 Qf5 19.Nc6 Rd7 20.Rd2 Qe4 21.Rdc2 Qxd4 22.Nxd4 h6 23.Kf1 Ng4 24.h3 Ne5 25.b3 Nd3 26.Rc7 Rdd8 27.R1c3 Nb4 28.Rxa7 Ra8 29.Rcc7 Nxa2 30.Nc6 Rxa7 31.Rxa7 Nc1 32.b4 Nd3 33.Ne7+ Kh7 34.Nxd5 f6 35.Ke2 Nc1+ 36.Kd2 Rd8 37.e4 Nb3+ 38.Kc3 Nc1 39.Nxf6+ Kg6 40.Nd5 Rc8+ 41.Kd4 Nb3+ 42.Ke5 Re8+ 43.Re7 Rxe7+ 44.Nxe7+ Kf7 45.Nd5 Nc1 46.Kd6 Nd3 47.f3 Ne1 48.Nxb6 Nxg2 49.Nd7 Nf4 50.b5 Nxh3 51.b6 Ng1 52.b7 Nxf3 53.b8Q Ng5 54.Ne5+ Kf6 55.Qf8+ Nf7+ 56.Qxf7+ Kg5 57.Qf5+ Kh4 1-0

Harold Dondis (1622)
Mike Griffin (1736)
[D55] Queen's Gambit Declined
80th MA Open (3), 28.05.2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Be7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bg5 0-0 6.e3 h6 7.Bxf6 Bxf6 8.Rc1 c6 9.cxd5 exd5 10.Bd3 Nd7 11.0-0 g6 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Bg7 14.Qb3 Nb6 15.Nc5 Kh7 16.Rcd1 Qc7 17.Bb1 Nd5 18.g3 Qb6 19.Qxb6 axb6 20.Nd3 Bg4 21.Nde5 Bxe5 22.Nxe5 Bxd1 23.Rxd1 Kg7 24.a3 Rfd8 25.f4 Nc7 26.Kf2 c5 27.Ke3 Rxd4 28.Rxd4 cxd4+ 29.Kxd4 Rd8+ 30.Kc3 Ne6 31.Be4 Nc5 32.Bc2 Nd7 33.Nc4 Rc8 34.Kd3 Rc6 35.Bd1 f5 36.Kd4 Kf8 37.Bf3 Rc7 38.b3 Ke7 39.a4 Ke6 40.Kc3 Nf6 41.b4 b5 42.axb5 Nd5+ 43.Kb3 g5 44.fxg5 hxg5 45.h3 Rh7 46.Bg2 f4 47.g4 Rf7 48.Bf3 Rh7 49.Bg2 Ne3 50.Nxe3 fxe3 51.Kc3 Rd7 52.Bf1 b6 53.Bd3 Ke5 54.Kc2 Kf4 55.Bc4 Kf3 56.h4 gxh4 57.g5 e2 0-1

"The older I grow, the more I value Pawns"
—Paul Keres

Jason Tang (1452)
Brian Smith (1731)
[C53] Italian Game
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Qf6 5.d3 d6 6.0-0 Bg4 7.Nbd2 Nge7 8.b4 Bb6 9.h3 Bd7 10.a4 a5 11.b5 Nd8 12.Ba3 Ne6 13.Re1 Nf4 14.Rb1 Qg6 15.Nh4 Qg3 16.Rf1 Qxh4 17.Kh1 Bxh3 0-1

Kevin Hu (1529)
James Zhou (1327)
[C44] Scotch Gambit
80th MA Open (1), 29.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Bb4+ 5.c3 dxc3 6.bxc3 Bc5 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Qd5+ Kf8 9.Qxc5+ Qe7 10.Qc4 Nf6 11.0-0 Qxe4 12.Qb3 Qe6 13.Ba3+ d6 14.Qc2 Qf5 15.Qb2 Kf7 16.Nbd2 Re8 17.Nh4 Qh5 18.Nhf3 b6 19.Rfe1 Bb7 20.Qb3+ Qd5 21.c4 Qf5 22.c5+ Qd5 23.Qxd5+ Nxd5 24.cxd6 cxd6 25.Bxd6 Nf6 26.Ng5+ Kg6 27.Ne6 Kf7 28.Nc7 Rxe1+ 29.Rxe1 Rd8 30.Bf4 Nb4 31.a3 Nd3 32.Rd1 Nxf4 33.g3 Ne2+ 34.Kf1 Nc3 35.Rc1 Rxd2 36.Rxc3 Ke7 37.Nb5 Ba6 38.Rc7+ Rd7 39.Rxd7+ Kxd7 40.a4 Kc6 41.Ke1 Bxb5 42.axb5+ Kxb5 43.Kd2 Kc4 44.Kc2 a5 45.f4 a4 46.Kb2 b5 47.h3 b4 48.g4 a3+ 49.Ka1 Kb3 50.g5 Nh5 51.h4 Kc2 52.Ka2 b3+ 53.Kxa3 b2 54.Ka4 b1Q 55.f5 Qb6 56.f6 Kc3 0-1

Mitch Rosich (1543)
Isabella Shih (1008)
[D02] Queen's Pawn game
80th MA Open (1), 29.05.2011

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e3 Bf5 4.Bd3 e6 5.0-0 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.e4 dxe4 8.Bxe4 Bxe4 9.Bg5 Bg6 10.d5 exd5 11.Nxd5 Be7 12.c4 Na5 13.Bf4 0-0 14.Bxc7 Qd7 15.Bxa5 Nxd5 16.cxd5 b6 17.Bc3 Rad8 18.Re1 Bc5 19.b4 Bd6 20.Qd4 f6 21.Rad1 Bc7 22.Qc4 Bf7 23.Qh4 Qf5 24.Nd4 Qh5 25.Qxh5 Bxh5 26.f3 Rxd5 27.Re7 Rf7 28.Rde1 Be5 29.Re8+ Rf8 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8 31.Ne6+ Kf7 32.Bxe5 Rxe5 33.Nd8+ Ke8 34.Rxe5+ fxe5 35.Ne6 Kf7 36.Ng5+ Kg6 37.Ne4 Kf5 38.Nd6+ Ke6 39.Nc8 a5 40.Nxb6 axb4 41.g4 Bf7 42.Kf2 Kd6 43.Nc8+ Kc5 44.Ne7 Bxa2 45.Nf5 g6 46.Ne3 b3 47.Nd1 Kc4 48.Ke2 Bb1 49.Kd2 Bc2 50.Nb2+ Kd4 51.Kc1 e4 52.fxe4 Kxe4 53.h4 Kf4 54.Nc4 Kxg4 55.Ne3+ Kxh4 56.Nxc2 bxc2 57.Kxc2 g5 58.Kd2 Kg4 59.Ke2 Kf4 60.Kf2 g4 61.Kg2 h5 62.Kh2 Kf3 63.Kg1 h4 64.Kh2 g3+ 65.Kh1 h3 66.Kg1 h2+ 67.Kh1 g2+ 68.Kxh2 Kf2 69.Kh3 g1Q 0-1

Cory Silva (1485)
Robert Holmgren (1718)
[E91] King's Indian Defense
80th MA Open (4), 29.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 Nbd7 7.0-0 c5 8.d5 a6 9.Qc2 Rb8 10.Re1 Ne8 11.Be3 Ndf6 12.Nd2 Bd7 13.f4 Bh6 14.Nf3 Kh8 15.Bd2 Bg7 16.e5 Bf5 17.Bd3 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Ng8 19.Re2 Nc7 20.Rae1 b5 21.b3 bxc4 22.bxc4 f6 23.e6 Rb7 24.Nh4 Qe8 25.Re3 f5 26.Rh3 Nh6 27.Nd1 Ng4 28.Bc3 Bxc3 29.Qxc3+ Kg8 30.Ne3 Nxe3 31.Rexe3 Rb1+ 32.Kf2 Qa4 33.Nxg6 Nxd5 34.Qh8# 1-0

Daniel Tiedemann (1719)
Harold Dondis (1622)
[C42] Petrov Defense
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Bf5 9.Bxe4 Bxe4 10.Nc3 Bg6 11.Ne5 Bxe5 12.dxe5 c6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.f4 Re8 15.Bd4 c5 16.Bf2 d4 17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.Rxe4 f5 19.Re2 Nf8 20.Qd3 g6 21.Qc4+ Ne6 22.Rd1 Kg7 23.g3 a6 24.a4 Rb8 25.b3 b5 26.axb5 axb5 27.Qd3 Qb6 28.c3 dxc3 29.Qxc3 Red8 30.Red2 Rxd2 31.Rxd2 Rd8 32.Rd6 Rxd6 33.exd6+ Kf7 34.Qe5 Qc6 35.Be1 c4 36.b4 Qe4 37.Qxe4 fxe4 38.Bc3 Ke8 39.Kf2 Kd7 40.Be5 Ng7 41.Bxg7 Kxd6 42.Ke3 Kd5 43.g4 1-0

Robert Clawson (1600)
Mark Kaprielian (1765)
[C00] French Defense
80th MA Open (2), 2011

1.e4 e6 2.f4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.c3 Bd7 6.Be2 f6 7.0-0 fxe5 8.fxe5 Be7 9.Qe1 Qc7 10.d4 0-0-0 11.Bg5 cxd4 12.Bxe7 Ngxe7 13.cxd4 h6 14.Nc3 a6 15.Na4 Nf5 16.Rc1 Kb8 17.Nc5 Qa5 18.Qxa5 Nxa5 19.Nxd7+ Rxd7 20.g4 Ne7 21.Nh4 Nc8 22.Ng6 Re8 23.Nf8 Rdd8 24.Ng6 Nc6 25.Bxa6 Nxd4 26.Bd3 Ne7 27.Kg2 Nxg6 28.Bxg6 Re7 29.Bd3 Nc6 30.Rfe1 Rf7 31.Bg6 Rf4 32.h3 Rdf8 33.Re2 Rf3 34.Rc3 Rf1 35.Bd3 R1f4 36.Bg6 Nd4 37.Ree3 Rf2+ 38.Kg1 Ne2+ 39.Rxe2 Rxe2 40.Bd3 Rxe5 0-1

Robert Clawson (1600)
Daniel Tiedemann (1719)
[A23] English Opening
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e5 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nc3 d5 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.d4 e4 7.Bf4 Nc6 8.Nb5 Qa5+ 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.a3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Bd2 Qxd4 13.Rc1 0-0 14.Bb4 Qxd1+ 15.Kxd1 Nxb4 16.axb4 Bd7 17.Bh3 Rfc8 18.Bxd7 Nxd7 19.Nh3 Rc4 20.Rb1 Rac8 21.Kd2 f6 22.Rhc1 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Rxc1 24.Kxc1 Kf7 25.Nf4 Nb6 26.Kb2 g5 27.Ng2 Ke6 28.Ne1 f5 29.Nc2 Ke5 30.Kc3 Na4+ 31.Kb3 b5 32.Ne3 d4 33.Nc2 h5 34.Na3 a6 35.Nc2 f4 36.e3 dxe3 37.fxe3 f3 38.Ne1 f2 0-1

Thomas Sifter (1643)
Andy Li (1512)
[C79] Ruy Lopez
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 d6 6.h3 Nxe4 7.Re1 Ng5 8.d4 Nxf3+ 9.Qxf3 Bd7 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.Qxb7 Rd8 13.f4 Be7 14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Qe4 f6 16.Nc3 0-0 17.Be3 Qe6 18.Rad1 f5 19.Qa4 Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Rb8 21.Qd7 Qxd7 22.Rxd7 Bd6 23.b3 h6 24.Nd5 Rb7 25.Ne7+ Bxe7 26.Rxe7 Rb5 27.Rxc7 Kh7 28.Rc5 Rxc5 29.Bxc5 Kg6 30.Kf2 h5 31.c4 Kf6 32.b4 Ke6 33.a4 g5 34.b5 axb5 35.cxb5 Kd7 36.a5 1-0

Jason Tang (1452)
Larry Eldridge (1799)
[C57] Two Knights Defense
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 b5 6.Bxb5 Qxd5 7.Bxc6+ Qxc6 8.0-0 Bc5 9.d3 0-0 10.Nc3 Bg4 11.Qe1 Bb6 12.Qxe5 Rfe8 13.Qg3 Be2 14.Nxe2 Rxe2 15.c3 Rae8 16.Nf3 Rc2 17.Ne5 Qe6 18.d4 c5 19.Qd3 cxd4 20.Qxc2 Qxe5 21.Bd2 Ng4 22.g3 Qe2 23.Rae1 Qb5 24.Rxe8+ Qxe8 25.Re1 Qc6 26.cxd4 Qd7 27.Be3 h5 28.Qe4 Nf6 29.Qd3 Qd5 30.b3 Nd7 31.Qc4 Qf3 32.d5 Ne5 33.Qc8+ Kh7 34.d6 Qf6 35.Rf1 Qxd6 36.Qf5+ Kg8 37.Qxh5 Qd3 38.Qxe5 1-0

Kevin Hu (1529)
Thomas De Martino (1651)
[C55] Two Knight's Defense
80th MA Open (5), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.e5 Qe7 6.0-0 Nxe5 7.Nxe5 Qxe5 8.Re1 Ne4 9.f3 f5 10.fxe4 fxe4 11.Nd2 d5 12.Bd3 Bb4 13.Bxe4 Kd8 14.Nf3 Qd6 15.Bg5+ Kd7 16.Bf5+ Kc6 17.Nxd4+ Kb6 18.c3 Bxf5 19.Nxf5 Bc5+ 20.Kh1 Qg6 21.Qb3+ Kc6 22.Ne7+ Bxe7 23.Bxe7 b6 24.Rad1 Qf5 25.c4 dxc4 26.Qxc4+ Kb7 27.Rc1 Rhc8 28.Qc6+ Ka6 29.Re3 Qa5 30.Ra3 Qxa3 31.bxa3 g6 32.Rc4 Ka5 33.Ra4# 1-0

James Zhou (1327)
Alexander Szejman (1609)
[B80] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 d6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.0-0-0 Ng4 9.Be2 Nxe3 10.Qxe3 0-0 11.f4 Bd7 12.e5 dxe5 13.Qxe5 Bf6 14.Qe4 Nc6 15.Nxc6 bxc6 16.Na4 c5 17.Nxc5 Qb6 18.Nb3 Bb5 19.Bxb5 axb5 20.Kb1 Ra5 21.Qf3 Qa7 22.Nc1 Ra8 23.Qb3 e5 24.fxe5 Bg5 25.Rhf1 Bxc1 26.Kxc1 Rxa2 27.Kd2 Rd8+ 28.Ke2 Re8 29.Qxb5 Qa8 30.Rf2 Ra5 31.Qb3 Raxe5+ 32.Kf1 Qe4 33.Qxf7+ Kh8 34.Qf8+ 1-0

Michael Isakov (1447)
Robert Holmgren (1718)
[E90] King's Indian Defense
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bf4 Nbd7 7.Be2 Ne8 8.e5 dxe5 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.dxe5 Bd7 11.0-0 c6 12.Bg3 Nc7 13.f4 Qc8 14.Ne4 Rd8 15.Qc2 Bf5 16.Bd3 Na6 17.a3 Qe6 18.Rad1 c5 19.Ng5 Qc8 20.Bxf5 Qxf5 21.Qxf5 gxf5 22.Nf3 Kf8 23.Nh4 e6 24.Nf3 f6 25.Bh4 Kf7 26.exf6 Bxf6 27.Bxf6 Kxf6 28.Ng5 h6 29.Nf3 Rac8 30.Kf2 Nb8 31.Ne5 Ke7 32.Ke2 Rg8 33.g3 Rgd8 34.Rd3 Nc6 35.Nxc6+ Rxc6 36.Rxd8 Kxd8 37.Rd1+ Ke7 38.Kf2 Rb6 39.Rd2 Rd6 40.Rxd6 Kxd6 41.Ke3 h5 42.Kf3 e5 43.fxe5+ Kxe5 44.Ke3 a6 45.a4 a5 46.b3 b6 47.h4 f4+ 48.gxf4+ Kf5 49.Kf3 Kf6 50.Ke4 Ke6 51.f5+ Kf6 52.Kf4 Kf7 53.Kg5 Kg7 54.Kxh5 and White won 1-0

Cornel Osadsa (1603)
Jesse Klimov (1647)
[C36] King's Gambit Accepted
80th MA Open (6), 30.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 d5 4.exd5 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nxd5 6.d4 Nxc3 7.bxc3 Bd6 8.Bd3 0-0 9.0-0 Bg4 10.Qe1 Re8 11.Qf2 Nd7 12.Rb1 b6 13.Bb5 Re6 14.Ne1 Qe7 15.Bxf4 Be2 16.Bxe2 Rxe2 17.Qf3 Re8 18.Bxd6 cxd6 19.Nd3 Qe3+ 20.Qxe3 R8xe3 21.Rfe1 Nf6 22.Kf1 Ne4 23.Rxe2 Rxe2 24.Rxb6 axb6 25.Kxe2 Nxc3+ 26.Kd2 Nd5 27.c4 Nc7 28.c5 dxc5 29.dxc5 bxc5 30.Nxc5 Kf8 31.Kd3 Ke7 32.Kc4 Kd6 33.Nb7+ Kd7 34.a4 f5 35.Nc5+ Kd6 36.a5 g5 37.Nd3 h5 38.Nb4 f4 39.a6 Ke5 40.Kd3 g4 41.a7 h4 42.Na6 Na8 43.Ke2 h3 44.gxh3 f3+ 45.Kf2 Kf4 46.Nc5 Nb6 47.Ne6+ Kf5 48.Nc7 1-0

Andy Li (1512)
Brian Biglow (1575)
[B32] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd5 cxd5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Bd2 e4 12.Bb5 a6 13.Ba4 Qd6 14.a3 Bxc3 15.Bxc3 Ng4 16.g3 e3 17.Qd4 exf2+ 18.Rxf2 Nf6 19.Bb4 Qd8 20.Bxf8 Kxf8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Ref1 Ne4 23.Re2 Kg8 24.c4 Nf6 25.cxd5 Qxd5 26.Qxd5 Bxd5 27.Rd2 g6 28.Rxf6 Be6 29.Rf1 Rb8 30.Rfd1 Kg7 31.b4 Bc4 32.Rd8 Rb6 33.R1d6 Rb7 34.Rc8 Be6 35.Rcc6 Re7 36.Rxa6 Bh3 37.Rd1 Re2 38.Bc6 Be6 39.b5 Rb2 40.b6 Bc4 41.Ra4 Bb3 42.Rb4 1-0

Michael Isakov (1447)
Bowen Wang (1565)
[D12] Queen's Gambit Declined
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Nf3 Bf5 5.e3 e6 6.Be2 Bd6 7.c5 Bc7 8.b4

Nbd7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 0-0 11.Bd2 e5 12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Rc1 Re8 15.0-0 Nd7 16.a4 Re6 17.f4 Bc7 18.Rf3 Nf6 19.Rff1 Qe7 20.Rce1 Rd8 21.Re2 d4 22.exd4 Nd5 23.Nxd5 Rxd5 24.Rxe6 Qxe6 25.Re1 Qc8 26.Qe4 Rd8 27.h3 g6 28.Bc3 Qb8 29.g3 Qc8 30.Kh2 Kf8 31.Qe7+ Kg8 32.d5 cxd5 33.Qf6 d4 34.Bxd4 Rxd4 35.Qxd4 Qf8 36.Qe4 Kg7 37.Qxb7 Qd8 38.Re2 Qd1 39.Qf3 Qxa4 40.Qc3+ Kg8 41.Qc4 Bd8 42.Qa2 Qb5 43.Rb2 a6 44.Qd5 Bf6 45.Rg2 Bc3 46.Qa8+ Kg7 47.c6 Qb6 48.Qb7 Bd4 49.Qxb6 Bxb6 50.Rc2 a5 51.bxa5 Bxa5 52.c7 Bxc7 53.Rxc7 Kg8 54.g4 Kg7 55.Kg3 h6 56.g5 hxg5 57.fxg5 Kf8 58.h4 Kg7 59.Kg4 Kg8 1-0

Mark Kaprielian (1787)
Thomas Sifter (1643)
[D13] Queen's Gambit Declined
80th MA Open (1), 28.05.2011

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 cxd5 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bf4 a6 7.h3 g6 8.e3 Bg7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 b5 11.Rc1 Bb7 12.a4 b4 13.Na2 e6 14.Ne5 Qb6 15.g4 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Rfc8 17.f3 Rxc1 18.Nxc1 Rc8 19.Rf2 Nd7 20.Bxg7 Kxg7 21.Rc2 Rxc2 22.Qxc2 e5 23.Ne2 exd4 24.Nxd4 Ne5 25.Be2 Nc6 26.Qd2 Nxd4 27.exd4 a5 28.Qf4 Qe6 29.Kf2 Bc6 30.b3 Qf6 31.Kg3 h6 32.h4 g5 33.hxg5 hxg5 34.Qe5 Qxe5+ 35.dxe5 Kf8 36.f4 gxf4+ 37.Kxf4 Ke7 38.g5 d4 39.Bc4 Bb7 40.Kg3 Be4 41.Kf2 Kf8 42.Ke2 Kg7 43.Bd3 Bg6 44.Kd2 Bh5 45.Be4 Bg6 46.Kd3 Bxe4+ 47.Kxe4 Kg6 48.Kxd4 Kxg5 49.Kc5 Kf5 50.Kb5 Kxe5 51.Kxa5 f5 52.Kxb4 f4 53.Kc3 Ke4 54.a5 Ke3 55.a6 f3 56.a7 f2 57.a8Q 1-0

"A bad plan is better than none at all"

—Frank Marshall

Thomas Sifter (1643)
Larry Eldridge (1799)
[C64] Ruy Lopez
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.0-0 Bb6 5.c3 Nf6 6.d3 d6 7.h3 Bd7 8.Qe2 Qe7 9.Be3 Nh5 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.Bxb6 axb6 12.g3 Nf6 13.Nbd2 h6 14.a3 Qe6 15.Kg2 g5 16.d4 Bd7 17.Rh1 c6 18.dxe5 dxe5 19.Nc4 g4 20.hxg4 Ra4 21.b3 Ra6 22.Nfxe5 Bc8 23.Rad1 Ke7 24.Rd6 b5 25.Rxe6+ Kxe6 26.Nd6 c5 27.Ndxf7 Rf8 28.Qxb5 Nxe4 29.Qc4+ 1-0

Kevin Hu (1529)
Isabella Shih (1008)
[C55] Two Knight's Defense
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.e5 Qe7 6.0-0 Nxe5 7.Nxe5 d6 8.Nxf7 Be6 9.Bxe6 Nd7 10.Re1 Qf6 11.Bg5 Qg6 12.Bf5+ Kxf7 13.Bxg6+ hxg6 14.Qe2 Nc5 15.Qc4+ d5 16.Qxd5+ Ne6 17.Qxe6# 1-0

Andy Li (1512)
Gaetano Bompastore (1543)
[B18] Caro-Kann Defense
80th MA Open (3), 29.05.2011

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nd7 7.Bd3 Bxd3 8.Qxd3 e6 9.0-0 Ngf6 10.Bg5 Be7 11.Rfe1 0-0 12.Ne4 Nd5 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Qd2 h6 15.a3 N7b6 16.Ne5 f6 17.Ng6 Qf7 18.Nxf8 Rxf8 19.b3 g5 20.g3 f5 21.Nc5 f4 22.Nxe6 Re8 23.Nc5 Rf8 24.c4 Nf6 25.Ne6 Re8 26.Nc5 Rf8 27.Qe2 fxg3 28.fxg3 Re8 29.Qf3 Kg7 30.Rxe8 Qxe8 31.Rf1 Qe7 32.Nxb7 Nbd7 33.Qxc6 Qe3+ 34.Kh1 Qxd4 35.Qf3 g4 36.Qf4 Qb6 37.Nd6 Qc6+ 38.Kg1 Qc5+ 39.Rf2 Kg6 40.Nf5 Qf8 41.Nh4+ Kg7 42.Qf5 Qe8 43.Qf4 Qa8 44.Nf5+ Kg6 45.Re2 Nc5 46.Ne7+ Kf7 47.Qc7 Ne6 48.Qd6 Ng5 49.Nf5 Nfe4 50.Qe7+ Kg6 51.Nh4+ Kh5 52.Rxe4 Nf3+ 53.Nxf3 and White won 1-0

Jesse Klimov (1647)
Allen Wang (1392)
[D02] Queen's Pawn Opening
80th MA Open (2), 29.05.2011

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 d5 3.g3 Bg4 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 Qd7 6.Nbd2 Bh3 7.c4 h5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.e4 Nf6 10.d5 Bxg2 11.dxc6 Qh3 12.cxb7 Rb8 13.Ng5 Bxf1 14.Nxh3 Bxh3 15.Qa4+ Nd7 16.Qc6 Kd8 17.Nf3 f6 18.Be3 e5 19.Bxa7 Be7 20.Bxb8 Nxb8 21.Qd5+ Ke8 22.a4 g5 23.a5 h4 24.a6 hxg3 25.fxg3 Nd7 1-0

UNDER 1500

This section submitted 21 games, many of them wild and exciting, and some where offensive and defensive play collided. In my choice, White is relentless in his attack. Even so, he missed a quicker win with 26. Nxf6 gxf6 27. Qg4 mating next move.

Brandon Wu (1266)
Arthur Tang (1073)
[B56] Sicilian Defense
80th MA Open (4), 29.05.2011

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.0-0 e6 8.Re1 Be7 9.Be3 0-0 10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.Qf3 e5 13.Qg3 Kh8 14.Red1 Qc7 15.Rac1 Rab8 16.b3 Qa5 17.Rd3 Rfd8 18.Rcd1 Rd7 19.Bd2 Rf8 20.Qh3 Qd8 21.Rg3 d5 22.exd5 cxd5 23.Bg5 d4 24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Ne4 Qe7 26.Qf5 Rc7 27.Rh3 h6 28.g4 Kg8 29.Re1 Rfc8 30.f4 Rxc2 31.g5 Rc1 32.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 33.Kf2 Rc2+ 34.Kg3 exf4+ 35.Kf3 Rxa2 36.gxf6 gxf6 37.Rxh6 Kf8 38.Rh8+ Kg7 39.Qh7# 1-0

In Memoriam

By Stephen Dann (MACA Education and Volunteer coordinator/chair)

Norman Peacor

Massachusetts has had its share of politicians who run for national office, but few in chess compare to C. Norman Peacor, life member of MACA, who had a full career as an insurance executive, and, who ran and became the USCF's first Treasurer in 1976. He died at age 84 on July 16 at an assisted living center in Providence, RI, and was buried near his retirement home in Orleans on August 13.

Born in Somerville (like Harry Nelson Pillsbury in 1872), he grew up in Stoneham, where he and his two brothers attended secondary school, and then received his BA from Tufts University in Medford and a MS in math from the University of Michigan.

Peacor spent the bulk of his insurance career at the home office of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Springfield, rising to become Executive Vice President, with huge civic responsibilities detailed in the July 20 Springfield Republican obituary. No one in the chess world heard about his passing until weeks later because his civic work overshadowed his hobbies and family pursuits.

Peacor realized during the "chess boom" of the 1970's that a large part of the "endowment" of most chess organizations was in the life membership funds that turned into investments involving more than 10,000 USCF members and millions of dollars. This has sparked political debates for four decades.

In short, it was sort of by chance that he became involved in chess politics at all, and decided to run for the USCF board in 1976, becoming its first treasurer. Fred Townsend of Connecticut told us this story more than 30 years ago, but only recently relayed this again to current USCF officials, and this is scheduled to appear in October, Chess Life magazine.

Also online is a Peacor family history, and, his relationship counseling the USCF Trust and USCF business office will be more widely known when there is commentary on www.uschess.org, among those who served USCF during the the 1970's and 1980's. What isn't online is his love of games like chess and bridge, or even that he played golf.

Among the chess officials who were consulted besides Fred Townsend were Leroy Dubeck, Bill Goichberg, George Mirijanian (MACA's current president) and Tony Cottell (now of FL, also a life member of MACA), who followed Peacor as USCF treasurer, and valued his counsel in trying to protect the USCF's life membership assets.

Most helpful were connections made by Glenn Petersen, *Chess Life for Kids* editor, who has held a variety of positons in the USCF.

It is hoped that the full obituary of Peacor (and other New England chess officials and players) will be linked from the USCF's "In Passing" memorial section to their respective state chess association websites. Many of the roughly 250 life members of MACA (and many others) are also honored by donations made to MACA's Living Memorial Chess Fund, also described in detail at www.masschess.org.

Paul E. Taylor

Paul E. Taylor, 87, of Warwick, RI, who organized chess educational opportunities for youth to seniors, died Aug. 26, 2011 in Rhode Island. Born in Altoona, PA, he was a 45-year executive for the Brown & Sharpe Mfg. Co. in Rhode Island, retiring as International Marketing Manager for a company still well known in the precision measuring tools industry.

In his retirement, he joined forces with Gilbert Gosselin, father of MACA's Living Memorial Chess Fund, and provided the mentoring to establish scholastic and senior chess activities throughout Rhode Island. He provided the "programs," and MACA provided the chess sets in a long relationship between the states.

Praise of his work can be found at his guestbook at www.murphyfuneralhomes.org from families in Providence, Bristol, North Kingstown, Portsmouth and West Warwick, RI, and his good work will long be a part of www.masschess.org, and its Living Memorial Chess Fund.

James W. Dunion

Few chess players gain multiple college degrees, travel, have a family and serve their country and community in the manner of James W. Dunion, 51, of Dudley who died July 30, 2011, and was laid to rest Aug. 8 in Norwich, CT, with full military honors.

Married in Korea in 1987, he visited many countries as an Air Force pilot, and continued his education at the University of Connecticut at Storrs gaining a masters in math, and was very close to a doctorate from the same institution at the time of his passing. He was self-employed as a high level computer program, specializing in computer security.

He was active in the Masonic order, HAM radio, as a softball coach, a USCF local tournament director, and, sought out MACA's help to establish local library chess programs in southern Worcester County. For a variety of reasons, he did not live to see these chess programs materialize.

A memorial rated tournament was conducted Sept. 18 at the University of Connecticut and the club is supporting chess educational training for his son, William T. Dunion of Dudley.

Volunteers are sought to continue Jim Dunion's work as a chess organizer and director in both Massachusetts and his native state of Connecticut, and MACA will provide the chess equipment if volunteers mentor these programs.

Howard Kaikow

A leader in establishing bibliographic standards for the Internet and the computer industry, Howard Kaikow, 69, of Nashua, NH, a life member of MACA and USCF, died April 1 after a long illness.

Until he was about 35, according to his sister, Rita Kaikow of New York, Howard studied Economics at CCNY, University of Michigan, University of Maryland and University of Minnesota, working at some of these and at University of Chicago and Northwestern University, then coming to New England to work at Data General and later at Digital Equipment Corp., which is now part of Hewlett-Packard. He set up a chess online discussion group at Digital, according to Bob Messenger, also of Nashua. After he left Digital, he became an independent contractor of Internet technology.

Despite not having a degree in computer science, Howard started working in the computer standards community more than 30 years ago, being self taught. He participated in U.S. and international standards committees (some as chair, vice chair or editor) primarily via ANSI, ECMA and ISO.

He was best known for his pioneering efforts that led to the ISO 9660 standard and its predecessor, the High Sierra format, the underlying file system for CD-ROM still used today.

In 1993 he became interested in using Microsoft Word macros to facilitate commenting on and writing standards, as well as conducting question and answers on a wide variety of Internet terms that are well known today, but only known by a few academics during this era. You can find some of the 1993 work at http://ftp.back2roots.org/padua/text/CD-ROM-Survey. He had a lifelong frustration with technical manuals, but preached friends and family about reading books for lifelong education.

His chess career goes back roughly 40 years to the Marshall Chess Club in New York City during his undergrad days at CCNY. He gave up correspondence chess when he told friends, "I do not wish to play against a computer," probably the frustration of many other amateurs. His family is donating his chess library to MACA's Living Memorial Chess Fund, and attempting to sell his National Standards web domain as to his wishes.

Thanks to Rita Kaikow for putting Howard's life in computer I-T into perspective, a field that many chessplayers have had keen interest in recent decades.

"The Pin is mightier than the sword"
—Fred Reinfeld

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For further details see the TLA in Chess Life or chesstour.com

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